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FORTY-FIFTH
ANNUAL CONCLAVE

GRAND
COMMANDERY

OF

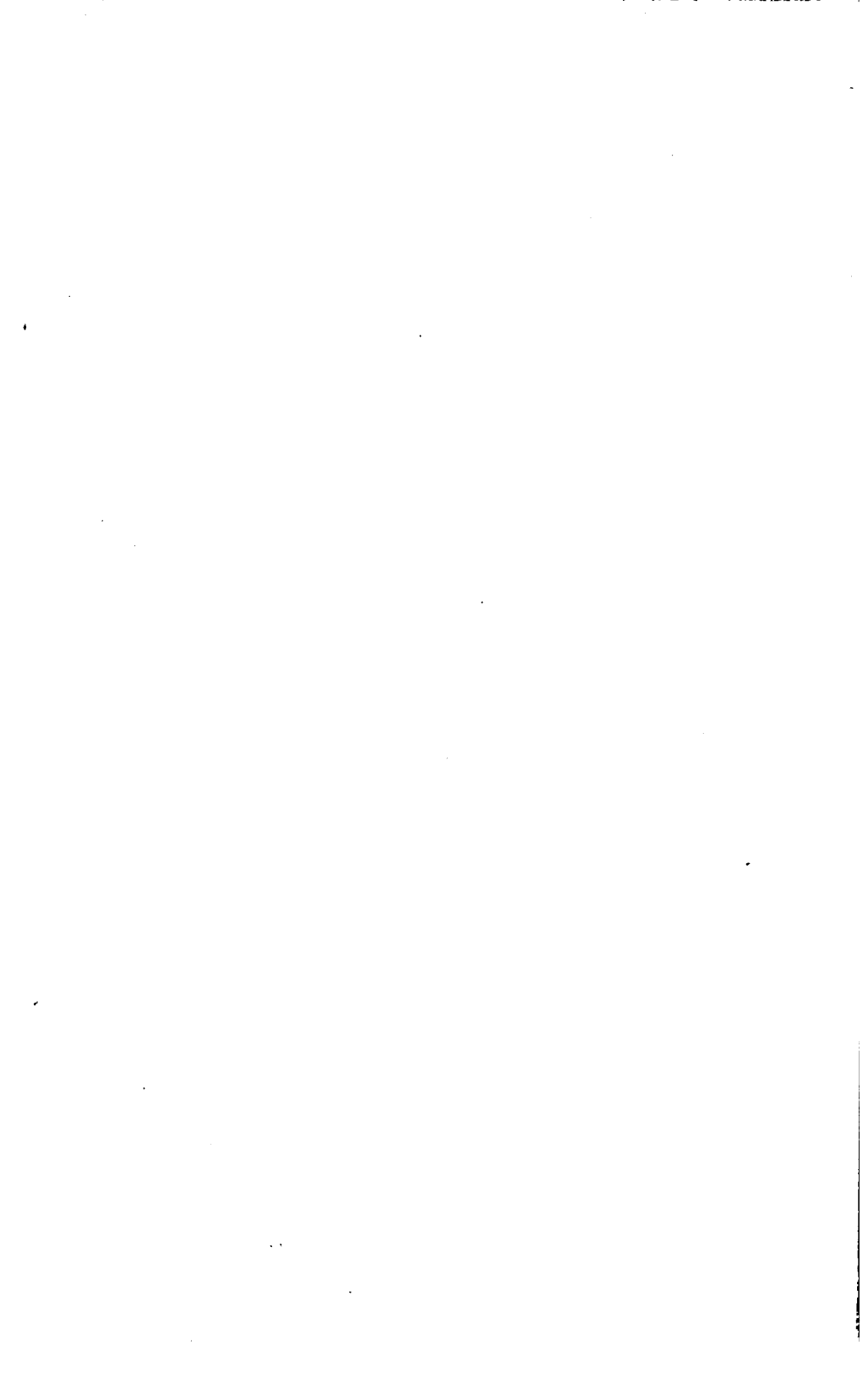
MISSISSIPPI.



1905









Joggo Dixon

1010 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Grand Commandery,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

State of Mississippi,

DECEMBER

Jackson, January 21-22, 1965.

MISSISSIPPI
AT WASHINGTON, D. C.
1965

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 2. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
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FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

—OF THE—

Grand Commandery,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

—IN THE—

State of Mississippi,

—HELD AT—

Jackson, February 21-22, 1905.

**VICKSBURG, MISS.
VICKSBURG HERALD PRINT,
1905.**



Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE.

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN MISSISSIPPI, convened in its Forty-fifth Annual Conclave in the Asylum of Mississippi Commandery, in the City of Jackson, on Tuesday, February 21, 1905, at 10 o'clock A. M., there being present:

Grand Officers.

Right Eminent Sir FRANK BURKITT.....Grand Commander.
Eminent Sir JOHN FOGGO DIXON.....Deputy Grand Commander.
Eminent Sir DEB. WADDELL.....Grand Generalissimo.
Eminent Sir GEORGE C. MYERS.....Grand Captain General.
Eminent Sir NOLAN STEWART.....Grand Senior Warden.
Eminent Sir GEORGE C. HOSKINS.....Grand Junior Warden.
Eminent Sir N. G. AUGUSTUS.....Grand Prelate.
Eminent Sir GUS J. BAHIN.....Grand Treasurer.
Right Eminent Sir FREDERIC SPEED.....Grand Recorder.
Eminent Sir GARLAND D. BROWN.....Grand Standard Bearer.
Eminent Sir JOHN S. BROOKS.....Grand Sword Bearer.
Eminent Sir E. ERNEST CLEMENT.....Grand Warder.

Past Grand Officers.

R. E. ENOCH GEORGE DELAP.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. WILLIAM A. BODENHAMER.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JAMES M. BUCHANAN.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JAMES T. HARRISON.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN S. COBB.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN A. B. JONES.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. HARRY T. HOWARD.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. OLIVER LEE MCKAY.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. ROBERT HIRAM HENRY.....Past Grand Commander.

Standing Committees.

TEMPLAR LAW—Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Chairman; William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.; James M. Buchanan, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.,

Grand Representatives.

ALABAMA.....	N. G. Augustus, P.E.C.
ARKANSAS.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
COLORADO.....	George S. Hunter, P.E.C.
CONNECTICUT.....	Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....	Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.
GEORGIA.....	James C. French, P.G.C.
ILLINOIS.....	James K. Moore, P.E.C.
INDIANA.....	Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.
IOWA.....	Frederic Speed, P.G.C.
KANSAS.....	William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
LOUISIANA.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
MAINE.....	C. L. Lincoln, P.E.C.
MARYLAND.....	James T. Harrison, P.G.C.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.....	John S. Cobb, P.G.C.
MONTANA.....	DeB. Waddell, G.C.
NEBRASKA.....	Emmet N. Thomas, P.E.C.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Benjamin V. White, P.E.C.
NEW JERSEY.....	E. Ernest Clement, P.E.C.
NEW MEXICO.....	Thomas B. Franklin, P.E.C.
NEW YORK.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
NORTH CAROLINA.....	James M. Buchanan, P.G.C.
OHIO.....	John A. B. Jones, P.G.C.
OREGON.....	George C. Myers, S.G.W.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.
TENNESSEE.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
TEXAS.....	Gus. J. Bahin, H.P.G.C.
VIRGINIA.....	William G Benbrook, P.G.C.
WEST VIRGINIA.....	William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.

Also present, the representatives of nineteen Commanderies and a large number of visiting Templars.

Opening.

The Grand Commandery was opened by the Grand Commander in AMPLE FORM, Past Grand Commander John A. B. Jones, leading in the devotions.

Committee on Credentials.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights Oliver Lee McKay, Frank P. Jenkins, and Louis Benoist as a Committee on Credentials, who presently submitted a partial report and were granted further time in which to complete it.

Address.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, then addressed the Grand Commandery, as follows;

SIR KNIGHTS AND FRATERS:

Another year, with its triumphs and disappointments, its successes and failures, its joys and sorrows, has sped away, and those of us, who have escaped the summons of the Angel of Death have the blessed privilege of once again assembling in Grand Conclave. Supremely grateful am I to Almighty God, that I am permitted to greet you as beloved Fraters on this auspicious occasion, and to welcome you, one and all, as valiant and magnanimous Templars to this, the forty-fifth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

It is a source of much pride and gratification to me to be able to announce to you that Templarism in this Grand Jurisdiction has taken no backward step during the year just past, that harmony prevails and that the prospects for the future are encouraging.

Nothing, so far as I am informed, has transpired since our last Conclave to mar our complete satisfaction save the fact that the Grim Reaper has been abroad in the land and caused some of the noblest, truest and best among us to cease their earthly warfare and exchange their swords, so richly endowed with all the Templar virtues, for the crowns of Glory which the Grand Captain of our Salvation has prepared and held in readiness for the valiant soldiers of the Cross.

From the Memorial notices kindly sent me by our very efficient and pains-taking Grand Recorder, the sad intelligence has been communicated to me that many eminent fraters in other jurisdictions have preceded us to that "Bright and Beautiful Land." From the mournful list I have culled the following distinguished names, whose virtues and ability commanded our admiration and respect while living, and whose demise we sincerely deplore:

R. E. Sir Joseph Alvah Locke, Past Grand Master, Past Grand High Priest and Past Grand Commander of Maine, and at the time of his death (April 21st., 1904,) Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

R. E. Sir Ellery I. Garfield, P.G.C., Michigan, died January 17, 1904.

R. E. Sir Rolland H. Oakley, P.G.C., Nebraska, died February 2, 1904.

E. Sir Robt. Carter Dunnington, G.R., West Virginia, died February 10, 1904.

R. E. Sir Dan P. Webster, P.G.C., Vermont, died March 13, 1904.

R. E. Sir Thos. J. Smith, D.G.C., Kentucky, died March 21, 1904.

R. E. Sir George F. Wheelock, P.G.C., Alabama, died March 26, 1904.

R. E. Sir Andrew Blair Frazee, P.G.C., New Jersey, died March 28, 1904.

R. E. Sir DeWitt C. Carroll, P.G.C., Pennsylvania, died April 7, 1904.

R. E. Sir Simon Victor McDowell, P.G.C., New York, died April 12, 1904.

R. E. Sir John Parke Corbin, P.G.C., Virginia, died May 28, 1904.

R. E. Sir Henry Turner, P.G.C., Illinois, died July 3, 1904.

R. E. Sir William H. H. Flick, G.C., West Virginia, died July 7, 1904.

- R. E. Sir Ferdinand Elrich, G.C., North Carolina, died August 8, 1904.
 R. E. Sir James Merritt Poyntz, P.G.J.W., Kentucky, died August 16, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Stephen J. Cain, G.S.B., North Carolina, died September 18, 1904.
 R. E. Sir John Davis Vincil, P.G.C., Missouri, died October 12, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Jacob D. Rush, P.G.C., Kansas, died October 28, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Lafayette Johnson, P.D.G.C., Virginia, died October 1, 1904.
 R. E. Sir John Henry Witbeck, G.T., Illinois, died October 27, 1904.
 R. E. Sir William Ryan, P.G.C., Kentucky, died November 13, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Alonzo St. Clair Wilderman, P.G.C., Illinois, died November 21, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Lenard A. Rose, P.G.C., North Dakota, died December 8, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Harris Hughes Kelly, P.G.C., South Dakota, died December 21, 1904.
 R. E. Sir D. Lloyd Jones, P.G.C., Wisconsin, died December 29, 1904.
 R. E. Sir Alfred Allen Rodman, G.C.G., Iowa, died January 3, 1905.

To our great sorrow, the Pale Horse and his Rider have traversed this Grand Jurisdiction also and the inexorable Mandate has gone forth calling from labor to refreshment, a number of our best beloved, among whom are the courtly and chivalric Sir H. H. Folk, honorary Past Grand Master of Masons of Mississippi and the amiable and magnanimous, Sir William H. Howard, whose seat in the Grand West at this Annual Convocation, of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Death has ruthlessly vacated. O! that I possessed a tongue and pen to do justice to the life and character of these towering pillars of wisdom and strength in our beautiful Masonic edifice! Grand as has been the lives of the long list of Fraters quoted, who have gone before us, none are grander than our own; pure as may be the character of any and all of the eminent men and Masons, whose loss we deplore, none there are to shine with a more effulgent luster than our own lamented dead. Peace to their immortal ashes, reverence for their sacred memories! May gentle zephyrs never cease to sigh sweet lullabys to their departed spirits, and may the most beautiful flowers, emitting the choicest fragrance, forever bloom over the sod that covers their last remains.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

During the year I have appointed and commissioned the following Grand Representatives:

- Alabama, Henry H. Matthews, Montgomery, November 1, 1904.
 Alabama, T. H. Jackson, Brinkly, November 1, 1904.
 Connecticut, William C. Comstock, Meriden, September 20, 1904.
 Florida, Albert P. Morrow, Gainsville, November 1, 1904.
 Georgia, Thos. E. Fletcher, Forsyth, December 3, 1904.
 Iowa, Henri K. Pratt, Keokuk, November 1, 1904.

Kansas, Willis E. Maynard, Kingman, December 2, 1904.
Maine, Cyrus W. Davis, Waterville, November 2, 1904.
Maryland, James F. Allen, Rockwell, November 2, 1904.
Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Benjamin W. Rowell, Lynn, December 2, 1904.
Missouri, Alexander M. Dockery, December 3, 1904.
New Hampshire, Daniel C. Roberts, Concord, December 2, 1904.
New York, John H. Chapman, Newberg, December 3, 1904.
Ohio, George E. McNab, Youngstown, December 3, 1904.
Pennsylvania, John F. Rau, Philadelphia, January 3, 1905.
South Dakota, William H. Roddle, Brooklings, December 2, 1904.
Texas, Will N. Kidd, Houston, December 2, 1904.
Vermont, George W. Squier, Scranton, December 2, 1904.
West Virginia, Edward O. Bower, Sistersville, December 2, 1904.
Wyoming, Samuel Earhart, Cheyenne, January 3, 1904.

And have recommended for appointment as Grand Representatives near this Grand Commandery, the following named Sir Knights, most, if not all of whom have received their commissions :

Alabama, N. G. Agustus, Okolona, November 10, 1904.
Arkansas, Harry T. Howard, Biloxi, November 10, 1904.
Colorado, George S. Hunter, Bolton, December 6, 1904.
Connecticut, Garland D. Brown, Water Valley, October 8, 1904.
District of Columbia, Edwin J. Martin, Meridian, December 31, 1904.
Florida, John E. Seavey, Brookhaven, Nov. 11, 1904.
Georgia, James C. French, Natchez, November 1, 1904.
Illinois, James Knox Moore, Vicksburg, November 10, 1904.
Iowa, Frederic Speed, Vicksburg, December 30, 1904.
Kansas, William G. Benbrook, Natchez, December 5, 1904.
Maine, C. L. Lincoln, Columbus, December 7, 1904.
Massachusetts and Rhode Island, John S. Cobb, Verona, September 9, 1904.
Maryland, James T. Harrison, Columbus, December 8, 1904.
Missouri, M. Leith Stigler, Yazoo City, November 1, 1904.
New Hampshire, Benjamin V. White, Meridian, December 5, 1904.
New Jersey, E. Ernest Clement, Ocean Springs, November 1, 1904.
New York, Enoch George DeLap, Natchez, December 1, 1904.
South Dakota, William G. Sykes, Aberdeen, November 9, 1904.
Texas, Gus. J. Bahin, Natchez, December 1, 1904.
Vermont, James J. Hayes, Vicksburg, December 10, 1904.
West Virginia, William A. Bodenhamer, Okolona, December 12, 1904
Wyoming, Melvin R. Grant, Meridian, January 10, 1905.

DISPENSATIONS.

The dispensations granted by me have not been numerous, because this power has been so hedged about by statutes of the Grand Encampment as to almost deprive, in toto, the Grand Commander of this sup-

posed prerogative of his office. I have, however, exercised this authority in a few instances, in which I felt that the exigency of the cases warranted it, and no other course could be pursued without detriment to the Order and a positive injustice to the applicants. One of these cases was a request of West Point Commandery, through our worthy Grand Prelate, who was present, to ballot out of time on the application of two Companions, who were suddenly called away to the Philippines. I granted it. Another was the application of Holly Springs Commandery to hold a Conclave on Monday, following the Saturday which was their regular time for meeting, and transact business; it being represented to me that the failure to hold the Conclave on Saturday was caused by the funeral of a greatly esteemed member and that business of much importance to that Commandery was urgent and imperative. Deeming this excuse a good one, I granted the request. In three other cases I have authorized the Commandery to ballot on applications pending, without said application lying over the usual length of time. One of these was in my home Commandery, another was granted Cyrene Commandery and the other occurred yesterday in Mississippi Commandery No. 1, but in all these instances I was present in person and knew favorably the petitioners. It is possible some one or more of these acts of mine may be regarded as a stretch of authority by the strict constructionist and therefore illegal. If so, the peculiar circumstances impelling my action, coupled with the genuine merit in the cases themselves, will probably call the attention of the next Grand Encampment to existing hidebound regulations and cause their modification. In that event I shall be content, no matter how much of censure you may visit upon me now.

THE TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE.

The Grand Commandery at Greenville, as seems to have been a custom, appointed a Triennial Committee to arrange an itinerary to San Francisco, and appropriated \$500 to be expended in the discretion of the committee. It so happened that only three of the committee, namely: Sirs Dixon, Martin and myself, attended the Triennial Conclave, and while we offer no criticism of former Triennial Committees, we deemed it advisable, under the circumstances, to use the appropriation, or so much thereof as might be necessary, in providing for the comfort and entertainment of what we termed the "Mississippi Templar Itinerary," on the outgoing trip and in paying the board bills of the Sir Knights and their ladies, while in San Francisco, rather than to humiliate ourselves by matching our short purse against the wealthier Commanderies, in a vain attempt to imitate them in lavish decorating of Head Quarters, issuing invitation cards and proffering costly refreshments to visitors. Realizing our inability to enter such an unequal competition, your committee adopted the policy already indicated, and as a result, we expended in advertising and postage before leaving home, \$41.25. For provisions, fruits, refreshments, telegrams, etc., for the entire party (39 in all) \$56.05, and as board bills of Sir Knights and ladies at the

Repelier Hotel, San Francisco, \$116.35. The remainder of the \$500.00 appropriation (\$286.35) was covered back into the Grand Commandery treasury immediately on my return from the Golden Gate. It is but just to the committees to say, that its members paid of their individual funds the same price for their tickets as other members of the party were charged and that not a dollar of Grand Commandery funds was expended for the benefit of any particular person, but for the enjoyment of all. An accurate account of the expenses incurred has been kept, and where practical, receipts were taken. The chairman of your Finance Committee will be furnished with all the papers in my possession touching this matter.

The cost of attending the Triennial Conclave often deters some of our ablest and best Fraters, and even the principal officers of the Grand Commandery from attending the Grand Encampment, leaving therefore only volunteers who have the leisure and means to represent Mississippi at these Triennial meetings. In view of these facts, I recommend that henceforth, instead of making an appropriation of \$500 or any other amount, the Grand Commandery pay the actual necessary expenses of its three principal officers, and in case any one or more of these should be so situated they could not attend, that alternates or proxies be chosen by the Grand Commandery, who shall represent their principals and us in the Grand Encampment and have their expenses paid.

THE ITINERARY.

In my somewhat extended experience, I can recall no trip I have ever taken, more enjoyable than the Mississippi Templar Itinerary beginning at Meridian, Mississippi, and ending at Los Angeles, California, a distance by the route we travelled, of more than 3,000 miles. A more agreeable, good-natured and intelligent body of ladies and gentlemen never filled a Pullman sleeper, and a more delightful journey across the continent it would be difficult to devise, and for its admirable arrangement in detail and complete success, the entire party most cheerfully and justly accord to Sir Knight E. J. Martin, the chief credit. Guided and directed by his experienced hand, every want was anticipated and every comfort provided. His plans for "stop overs" at the World's Fair, at Denver, Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City and Sacramento were to the party both pleasant and profitable and served to relieve us of the worry incident to continuous travel. Then the route chosen presented the grandest scenic panorama to be found on this continent. The broad prairies of Kansas, the snow clad mountains of Colorado, Pike's Peak, Arkansas and other Grand Canons, Tennessee Pass, the arid plains, the Book Cliffs, the Great Salt Lake, the Coast Range, and the beautiful Valley of the Sacramento, are some of the many wonders which Nature discloses to the tourist who passes over the route. All these our party saw, admired and discussed in the Order and on the very days announced in the circulars advertising the excursion, except as to the time of our con-

templated arrival at Salt Lake City, the delay being caused by a "washout" just before reaching that city.

While I regretted this mishap, specially on account of the disappointment to our ladies who were anxious to hear the music of the great organ in the Mormon Tabernacle, I was compensated by the beautiful and impressive services held that lovely Sabbath morning on board the cars, led and conducted by our esteemed Frater, Past Grand Commander, Rev. J. A. B. Jones, whose presence as a member of the party added much to the pleasure of the Itinerary. One other pleasing incident during the trip, was the presentation of a handsome gold headed cane, purchased by contributions from all the other members of the party, to Sir Knight E. J. Martin, as "a testimonial of fraternal love," just before our train reached the golden shores of the Pacific.

I have said the Itinerary ended at Los Angeles. By this I mean the arrangement made with the railroads, was to the effect that the sleeper chartered for the excursion was to be abandoned when we reached that city, for the reason the party contemplated spending a few days in the "City of the Angels," and had planned a daylight run along the coast to San Francisco, when after the meeting of the Encampment the Itinerary would disband, as different routes had been chosen for the return trip.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

The City of San Francisco was most appropriately and expensively decorated for the occasion and the Templars were accorded a most generous welcome. The parade was a gorgeous affair, witnessed by hundreds of thousands of people, but as I beheld the superb pageant I could not avoid the reflection, there was too much vain display, too much tinsel, an undue rivalry in the exhibition of gaudy trappings and uniforms, too much wanton extravagance to meet the approbation of Him we profess to serve. For the coming together of Knight Templars, throughout the country, in Triennial Conclave, many good reasons may be assigned, but I am impressed with the idea, numerous reforms must be instituted before they properly typify the humility of the Nazarene, or fully comport with the real character of a true follower of Prince Emanuel.

The courtesies extended to the Mississippians by Grand Master Stoddard, and the other officers of the Grand Encampment, were all we could hope or expect, and disclosed to us the gratifying fact that elegant apartments, extravagant decorations, and lavish entertainment was not with them a prerequisite to recognition. Grand men they are, and well worth so long a journey to see and know. Indeed others greater and much higher in authority than we traversed one third of the globe to be present at our last Grand Encampment. I refer to the Honorable, the Earl of Euston, Most Excellent and Supreme Grand Master of the Grand Priory of England and Wales and the British dependencies and his suite of six other officers. These eminent fraters were introduced and vouched for by Sir Knight John Corson Smith of Illinois, so well known and be-

loved by Mississippi Masons of all ranks and degrees. The reception given our brethren from across the sea, was a most cordial one, but I could not agree to one sentiment uttered during the speech making, which as expressed by one orator, was a hope that the visit of our British fraters would hasten the Union of all English speaking people and another said he trusted that "the bond between the old and new Templars may go on and get stronger until we finally become one nation." Masonically, I desire unity not only with "English speaking people" but with all nations, kindred, tongues and people, who believe in the existence of an All-wise Supreme Being, and who will voluntarily conform to the ancient land marks of the Order, but I do not want to see this Great Republic blended with the British Empire, or any other Kingdom, principality or political power on the earth. Uncle Sam is big enough to take care of himself, without aid from others, and he has business enough at home, without undertaking a protectorate over alien governments.

CONCLUSION.

And now, Sir Knights, the time having arrived when I shall lay aside the scepter of authority and again take my place in the ranks, I desire to return my profound thanks to the Officers of this Grand Commandery and the officers and members of the Subordinate Commanderies in this Grand Jurisdiction for the many personal and official courtesies extended to me during the time I have occupied the exalted station in which your kindness placed me one year ago. I sincerely hope my conduct has been such as to meet your approval, but my greatest concern has been and is, that no act of mine has, or will prove a detriment to our Chivalric Order. "God be with you 'till we meet again."

Reference of Address.

Past Grand Commander, Frank P. Jenkins, offered the following, which, was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the address of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, be received, spread upon the minutes and printed in the proceedings and referred as follows:

So much as refers to Necrology to a Special Committee of three.

So much as refers to Grand Representatives, to a like committee.

So much as refers to Dispensations to the Committee on Templar Law.

So much as refers to Triennial Conclaves to a Special Committee of three.

Condolence and Sympathy.

The Grand Recorder announced that death had taken from our venerable Past Grand Commander Phineas M. Savery, on the previous Thursday night, his beloved wife, with whom he had companioned for more than half a century and that our Frater was himself prostrate upon a bed of sickness at this present time and suggested that the condolence

and sympathy of the Grand Commandery be telegraphed to him—whereupon, on motion, the following was ordered to be sent:

JACKSON, Miss., February 21st., 1905.

To P. M. Savery, Tupelo, Miss. :

All our hearts go out in loving sympathy and condolence to our beloved Past Grand Commander and as its first act on assembling the Grand Commandery orders this message of affection,

FREDERIC SPEED,

Grand Recorder.

During the day the following reply was received :

TUPELO, Miss., February 21st., 1905.

Frederic Speed, Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery, Jackson, Miss. :

Friendship, sympathy and love entwined greatly appreciated. God bless all.

P. M. SAVERY.

Devotional Office.

The lines were then formed and the Grand Commandery proceeded to the First Presbyterian Church, where the full devotional office was said, led by the Grand Prelate and assisted by a volunteer choir of ladies and gentlemen who sang the anthems and hymns. During the services the Grand Prelate preached an able and interesting discourse. At the conclusion of the office a collection amounting to \$64.06 was taken for the Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum.

The Grand Commandery on its return to the Asylum was, at fifteen minutes past one o'clock, adjourned until half-past two o'clock this afternoon.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON CONCLAVE.

At half-past two o'clock the Grand Commandery convened pursuant to adjournment, all the Grand Officers and members being present as at the former Conclave.

Appointment of Committees.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights Cobb, White and Trotter as a Committee on Finance.

The Very Eminent, the Deputy Grand Commander, appointed the following Special Committees on the Grand Commander's address:

ON NECROLOGY—Sir Knights Speed, McKay and Martin.

ON GRAND REPRESENTATIVES—Sir Knights Benoist, Bodenhamer and Hoskins.

ON TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE—Sir Knights DeLap, Waddell and Cobb.

And that portion of the address relating to Dispensations was referred to the Committee on Templar Law; Right Eminent Sir James C. French being appointed to fill the vacancy on said committee, occasioned by the absence of Right Eminent Sir Savery.

Report on Credentials.

The Committee on Credentials submitted a partial report and was given further time in which to complete their report.

By-Laws

The Grand Recorder submitted a code of By-Laws adopted by Edwards Commandery, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Templar Law.

Grand Recorder's Report.

The Grand Recorder submitted his Annual Report and Account as follows and the same was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Templar Law and the Finance Committee:

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

The Grand Recorder begs leave to courteously submit his Annual Report.

The principal event of this year has, of course, been the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment at San Francisco. In consequence of sickness in his family, the Grand Recorder was prevented from attending. As a grand pageant and social reunion of the Templars of the land it was an unqualified success, but as a legislative body the result was disappointing to us, at least, for the reason, that no action was taken upon certain amendments, which this Grand Commandery thought it expedient to propose. We are taught in another body that we should submit to the will of the majority for the good of the whole, but when a great legislative body refuses to consider the plea of even its most insignificant member, as was the case at San Francisco, it would seem that it did not have much will power for any one to submit to and to say the least, it subjected itself to the criticism, that it was indifferent to the good of the whole, and the thought intrudes itself that possibly if there had been less pageantry and good fellowship, a more earnest attention would have been given the object for which the Grand Encampment exists, the welfare of the Order, or possibly it would be better still if that illustrious body would abandon all legislative functions and confine its attentions to the spectacular and social features of the occasion, instead of endeavoring to legislate regarding the domestic affairs of what, a cer-

tain element in that body, is pleased to denominate, its "subordinates" instead of its constituent bodies.

For years there has been manifest a desire to concentrate all Templar powers in the Grand Encampment and to rob the Grand Commanderies of their legitimate control over the Commanderies created by them, thus losing sight of the great Masonic principle, that it is the individual rather than the governing body which is the source of power. There have been many illustrious Templars who have contended that it is a military autocracy and therefore it should govern as an autocrat, forgetting that the superstructure upon which it is imposed, is the oldest and purest form of democracy—the Republic of Freemasonry, and that when the principles of Freemasonry are lost sight of, it no longer has the slightest foundation for its vaunted pretensions that Templary is a part of Freemasonry. It is absurd to claim that it is a military organization at all, as the slightest thought will demonstrate, for the fact that it practices a few tactical movements and wears swords and a chapeau, does not make it an army or any part of one. It exercises none of the functions of the soldier and on the contrary it teaches in its asylums a doctrine repugnant to militarism. Anarchists may have stolen into the Asylum and for the time being overthrown the Republic of Templarism but the fact remains incontestible that not even the most absurd mixture of military titles with those indicating only a peaceable following of the Lamb of God, does not constitute a military despotism and, although there may be some who regard the Grand Master as a Czar, it is manifest that they forget that he does not possess an atom of authority which is not to be found in a written constitution and in that constitution there has not been written a line which confers upon him unlimited authority.

The spirit of centralization and militarism found its culmination in a code of statutes, which it cannot be proven by the record, were ever adopted by the Grand Encampment but which it enforces, nevertheless, with a mailed hand.

This Code, said to have been adopted at Pittsburgh, contains for the most part, wise and good rules of action, which it would be difficult to improve upon, but at the same time it has some provisions which are, to speak truthfully, arrogant nonsense—impossible of execution, and which serve only to beget confusion.

Of course it was not to have been expected that a national body which meets but once in three years for a few brief hours, amid scenes of the greatest excitement and confusion, could by any possible stretch of imagination, legislate intelligently, and its record, or rather want of record, shows that it did not. The government of the Grand Commanderies and their Commanderies was a subject which it ought not to have approached at all. It was as if Congress were to undertake to legislate regarding the internal economy of the States and to lay down rules for the regulation of the Boards of Supervisors. If it were to do so it would become an object of contempt and its rules would be disregarded. And such seems to be the fate of the Grand Encampment Code,

for there is not even in the brief period in which its Code has been in existence, a Grand Commandery which has not substituted some law of its own, which in more or less important particulars, is not in conflict with it. The Grand Commanderies, representing the people of Templarism, seem to have invoked the principle, *vox populi suprema lex*, and this, notwithstanding, that every one of these people have in the most solemn manner made the most solemn vows to support and maintain that Code. If this Grand Commandery has not done likewise, it has been because it has entertained the opinion that the laws of the Grand Encampment are obligatory upon it, but it may be after all, we were mistaken, for it would seem that by the law of general consent, the Code is otherwise construed by what we are bound to recognize as the most eminent authority, and that we are free to regard or disregard, at our pleasure, the regulations prescribed by the Grand Encampment and to make laws of our own, where we think them better adapted to promote our interests and those of our Commanderies. At least we have many precedents in the action of other Grand Commanderies to warrant us in so doing. The Grand Encampment having neglected to take action it may be regarded as an admission that it has no power to do so and therefore we may ease our consciences and act for ourselves in some very important matters which demand a remedy for existing evils.

In the matter of enforcing the payment of dues, it seems to be imperative that we should devise some regulation to enable Commanderies to do so; the two statutes of the Grand Encampment bearing upon this subject, being practically impossible of execution; the one provides that after two years default a member may be disfranchised and the other is one of those incomprehensible pieces of legislative juggling with words, such as lawyers fatten upon. Like Mahomet's coffin it "hangs between heaven and hell" for it has nothing upon which to rest and no visible means of support. It says, "Suspension for non-payment of dues can be inflicted by the Commandery only after due notice," &c. The compiler having forgotten, that by another section, the penalty fixed is not suspension, but disfranchisement. The delinquent must be given notice and an opportunity to be heard in his defense and any by-law providing for suspension, without such notice and opportunity to be heard is, illegal and void. To ascertain what constitutes notice and an opportunity to be heard in his defense, we are driven to the forms prescribed for Templar Trials, from one of which the Lord deliver a busy man who has to earn his daily bread. By a slow and tedious process a delinquent may be "disfranchised,"—whatever that may mean—if he is in arrears for two years. There were four thousand six hundred and twelve Templars reported as having been suspended for non-payment of dues, by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, during the last Triennial period, but I venture the assertion, that not one of them was lawfully suspended from his membership; indeed the ponderous machinery of a Templar trial makes it impracticable to pursue lawful methods. To meet the emergency, I suggest as an additional Statute of the Grand Commandery:

SECTION — Every member shall pay an annual contribution of ———dollars to his Commandery at the Stated Conclave preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and the Recorder shall, at least, twenty days preceding such Conclave notify every member of the Commandery of the amount of his dues and request payment; and should any member allow his dues to remain unpaid on or before the day of said Conclave, the Recorder shall notify such delinquent to appear at a Stated Conclave to be held, not exceeding ninety days after such notification, to show cause why he should not be suspended from membership. And in default of an appearance by the delinquent or in the event that the Commandery shall not deem his excuse sufficient, it may then and there suspend him by a majority vote. And the member, so suspended, may reinstate himself by paying the dues, which had accrued at the time of his suspension and the Recorder shall enter such reinstatement upon the minutes of the next Conclave.

We proposed an amendment to the Statutes, making the election of a candidate who does not present himself for the Orders within six months void and a new petition necessary, for this a substitute was adopted, which with all due respect, I think is the masterpiece of ambiguity, a mere string of words which mean nothing, that is intelligible. It is, "whenever an elected candidate shall fail to present himself for the Orders of Knighthood within sixty days after being notified of favorable action upon his petition, but shall within six months after his election present himself, then the Commandery will have the right to satisfy itself whether or not there was a reasonable excuse for the delay, and if, in its judgment, a reasonable excuse has not been presented, the election shall be annulled. If he fails to present himself within six months the election shall be annulled."

Translated into intelligible English this remarkable production seems to be "if the candidate does not come forward within sixty days or six months, his election may be annulled and if he does not appear within six months it shall be." If it has any meaning, which I doubt, the election of a candidate may be annulled in sixty days, and if he has not a reasonable excuse to offer his election "shall be annulled," but what possible figure the six months cut, surpasses my comprehension. The requirement, without any qualification, that the election of a candidate not presenting himself within six months shall be annulled, leaves nothing to unavoidable accident or dereliction of duty by a Commandery. If it does not confer the Orders within six months it must punish the candidate for its own fault. What the process of "annulment" is, is left to conjecture.

Guessing at what was intended, I suggest the adoption of the following as a Statute. It is not what we want, but is not repugnant to the Statute of the Grand Encampment, so far as it can be understood, and has the merit of being intelligible and gets rid of the question of how a Commandery may go about "annulling" an election, for it is self-executory:

1904.

DEBIT.

March 14.	Collection at Greenville for Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum.....	\$ 165 86
Sept. 15.	Unexpended balance Triennial Fund.....	286 35
Oct. 1.	Dues 1904, paid after February 10th., 1904.....	349 00
1905.		
Feb. 10.	Dues 1904 paid to date.....	821 50
		<hr/>
		\$1,622 71

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Warrants 110, 112, 114, 116, 124, 128, 129, 135, 139, 141, 142, 146,	Piazza & Botto for rent of offices from February 1, 1904 to February 1, 1905.....	\$ 120 00
Warrants 111, 115, 119, 120, 126, 130, 136, 140, 142, 144, 145, 147,	Frederick Speed, salary.....	500 00
Warrant 113, J. Manz Engraving Co.....		13 15
Warrant 117, E. J. Martin, Chairman, Triennial Committee.....		20 00
Warrant 118, Vicksburg Herald, printing and stationery.....		377 59
Warrant 121, Grand Encampment dues.....		48 95
Warrant 122, Clarke & Co., frame for portrait on old banner....		12 50
Warrant 123, G. C. Braxmar & Co., badges.....		35 00
Warrant 125, Dement Bros., printing for Triennial Committee..		21 25
Warrant 127, Frank Burkitt, Triennial Fund.....		458 75
Warrant 131, Belt for banner.....		2 37
Warrant 132, Gus J. Bahin, pay roll at Greenville.....		327 74
Warrant 133, Gus J. Bahin, salary as Grand Treasurer.....		50 00
Warrant 134, Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum collection at Greenville.....		165 86
Warrant 137, Contingent Fund		25 00
Warrant 138, Vicksburg Herald printing and stationery.....		69 20
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$2,047 36

CONTINGENT ACCOUNT.

1904.

CREDIT.

Feb. 10.	To balance from old account.....	\$15.46
Oct. 22.	Warrant 137.....	25 00
1905.		
Feb. 1.	Balance to new account.....	3 94
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$44 40

Grand Treasurer's Report.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his Annual Report, as follows, which was referred to the Finance Committee:

GUS J. BAHIN, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND COM-MANDERY:

1904.

DEBIT.

Feb. 12.	To balance on hand	\$1,894 08
Sept. 17.	To cash from Grand Recorder.....	286 35
Oct. 3.	To cash from Grand Recorder	349 00
Oct. 3.	To collection for Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum..	165 86
1905.		
Feb. 10.	To cash from Grand Recorder.....	821 50
		<hr/>
		\$3,516 79

1905.

CREDIT.

Feb. 10.	By Thirty-eight Warrants paid.....	2,247 28
Feb. 10.	By balance on hand.....	1,269 51
	Total.....	\$3,516 79

Election of Officers.

On motion, the Grand Commandery proceeded to elect its officers for the ensuing year with the following result:

Grand Commander.....	JOHN FOGGO DIXON.
Deputy Grand Commander.....	DEB. WADDELL.
Grand Generalissimo.....	GEORGE C. MYERS.
Grand Captain General.....	NOLAN STEWART.
Senior Grand Warden.....	GEORGE C. HOSKINS.
Grand Junior Warden.....	GARLAND D. BROWN.
Grand Prelate.....	J. R. CARTER.
Grand Treasurer.....	GUS J. BAHIN.
Grand Recorder.....	FREDERIC SPEED.
Grand Standard Bearer.....	JOHN S. BROOKS.
Grand Sword Bearer.....	E. ERNEST CLEMENT.
Grand Warder.....	EDWIN J. MARTIN.

Time of Next Annual Grand Conclave.

On motion, the time and place of the next Annual Grand Conclave was left to the selection of the Grand Commander elect.

Adjournment.

At six o'clock the Grand Commandery adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

SECOND DAY—MORNING CONCLAVE.

At nine o'clock A. M., Wednesday, February 22d., the Grand Commandery met pursuant to adjournment, the Grand Officers and Representatives present as on yesterday.

Credentials.

The Committee on Credentials having completed their report, submitted the same as follows, and on motion, it was adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

The Committee on Credentials having completed its labors, courteously submits its final report :

With the exception of Greenwood and Macon all the Commanderies are represented, as below stated :

ABERDEEN.—W. G. Sykes, Past Eminent Commander, proxy for Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General.

COAHOMA.—Joseph J. Brooks, Eminent Commander; Jno. S. Brooks, Generalissimo.

CYRENE.—Henry F. Broach, Jr., Eminent Commander.

DEMOLAY.—D. D. Richards, proxy for Eminent Commander.

DELTA.—Emmet N. Thomas, Past Eminent Commander, Representative.

EDWARDS.—Thomas P. Martin, Eminent Commander.

GREENWOOD.—Not represented.

HATTIESBURG.—J. P. Carter, Past Eminent Commander, Eminent Commander; Walter M. Conner, Captain General.

HOLLY SPRINGS.—George C. Myers, Past Eminent Commander, Representative.

IVANHOE.—Thomas M. Walton, Eminent Commander.

LEXINGTON.—S. M. Smith, Eminent Commander.

MACON.—Not represented.

MAGNOLIA.—William A. Stanton, Captain General, proxy for Eminent Commander and Generalissimo.

MISSISSIPPI.—W. F. Wilcox, Eminent Commander; George Boyd Power, Generalissimo; A. P. Lusk, Captain General.

ROSALIE.—Louis A. Benoist, Eminent Commander; Edmund Sadler, proxy for Generalissimo.

MARY-SAVERY.—W. W. Fitzgerald, Representative.

ST. CYR.—Garland D. Brown, George W. Field

ST. ELMO.—John E. Seavey, Eminent Commander; Charles Heuck, Generalissimo.

THE COAST.—Harry T. Howard, Past Eminent Commander, Representative.

WEST POINT.—R. M. Trotter, Eminent Commander; H. L. Joiner, Generalissimo; William Johnson, Captain General.

YAZOO.—James S. Perrin, Eminent Commander; Jesse Barnett Ellis, Generalissimo.

GRAND OFFICERS.

Grand Commander, Frank Burkitt.
 Deputy Grand Commander, John Foggo Dixon.
 Grand Generalissimo, DeB. Waddell.
 Grand Captain General, George C. Myers.
 Grand Prelate, N. G. Augustus.
 Grand Treasurer, Gus J. Bahin.
 Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed.
 Senior Grand Warden, Nolan Stewart.
 Junior Grand Warden, George C. Hoskins.
 Grand Standard Bearer, Garland D. Brown.
 Grand Sword Bearer, John S. Brooks.
 Grand Warder, E. Ernest Clement.

COMMITTEES.

TEMPLAR LAW.—Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.; William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

William G. Benbrook, Past Grand Commander.
 John A. B. Jones, Past Grand Commander.
 James C. French, Past Grand Commander.
 Enoch George DeLap, Past Grand Commander.
 William A. Bodenhamer, Past Grand Commander.
 John S. Cobb, Past Grand Commander.
 Robert Hiram Henry, Past Grand Commander.

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

Benjamin V. White, James Bryan Foster, W. P. Tackett, Edward C. Carroll, Edward M. Moore, Charles M. Taylor, W. W. Lake, William James Brown, W. B. Taylor, D. Eugene Adkisson, C. E. Romberger, R. A. Stigler, John S. Hord, Yazoo.

VISITORS.

John Reed, Charles B. Evans, Ivanhoe; E. W. Holmes, Aberdeen; Charles S. Joiner, W. L. West, West Point; R. Griffith, Mississippi; W. S. Vardaman, Greenwood; Jas. F. Hill, Edward Prince, Rosalie; Chas. E. Grafton, J. Elliott Magee, St. Elmo; Frank E. Wilson, W. Calvin Brown, Isaac W. Taber, F. M. Elliott, Rosalie; Charles Bridges, Edwards; S. H. Hallowell, R. W. Hellums, E. M. Page, B. F. Tatum, F. B. DeShon, H. H. Creekmore, St. Cyr.

Courteously submitted,

O. L. McKAY,
 F. P. JINKINS,
 LOUIS BENOIST,
 Committee.

Report Committee on Templar Law.

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

The Committee on Templar Law courteously beg leave to report that it has considered that portion of the Grand Recorder's report relating to the relations of the Grand Commandery with the Grand Encampment—in the matter of the laws governing the Grand and Subordinate Com-

manderies. While we are of the opinion that the amendments proposed by this Grand Commandery, through its Grand Recorder, to the Grand Encampment, were of sufficient merit to have engaged the attention of that body, so long as we continue to hold to the opinion that the laws of the Grand Encampment are of supreme authority, there is no remedy, however desirable the amendments may be, and regardless of what other Grand Commanderies may do, we consider our duty as true and loyal Knights, is to observe in letter and in spirit the obligations of the Order, as expressed in its vows of fidelity.

Courteously submitted,

O. L. MCKAY,
W. A. BODENHAMER,
J. C. FRENCH,
Committee.

Additional Report Committee on Templar Law.

The Committee on Templar Law submitted the following additional report, which was on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, Grand Commandery:

Your Committee on Templar Law having considered the question of special dispensations granted by the Grand Commander beg to report that as the Grand Commander was present at the stated conclaves of Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 10, Cyrene, No. 9, and Mississippi, No. 1, when dispensations were asked for on vote of Commandery, he unquestionably possessed the authority to grant the same at that stated conclave. The dispensations granted to Holly Springs Commandery, No. 4, and West Point, No. 20, necessitates further consideration of law concerning dispensations. Section 3 of Article 4 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment reads as follows: "Art. 4, Sec. 3. Petitions for the Orders or for membership cannot be received and acted on except at stated conclaves, nor can they be balloted on in less than two weeks from their presentation without a special dispensation from the Grand Master, or Grand Commander, respectively." The first clause of this Section means that petitions, alluded to, cannot be received and referred to committees except at stated conclaves, and nothing more. The latter clause empowers the Grand Master, or Grand Commander as the case may be, to grant dispensations to ballot on petitions in less than two weeks. This, in the opinion of your committee, clearly empowers such officers, to grant special dispensations to ballot on petitions instantler, or such other time as he may desire within the two weeks limit. The two clauses of said Section are entirely independent of each other, and, therefore, nothing in the one is necessary to elucidate the other. They are as distinct and separate as if they constituted two sections. But Title 7, Section 1, Code of Statutes is relied on to establish a totally different construction. This is simply a statute and cannot aid, change or modify the constitutional provision. Being in conflict with the Constitution, it is null and void. At least this is the opinion of your committee.

Under proper conditions, it believes that the action of the Grand Commander was clearly within his constitutional power, in granting the requests of Holly Springs, West Point and Cyrene Commanderies. But the Grand Encampment has decided otherwise. It seems to attach more importance to the Statute than to the Constitution. To make that Statute available it must, in your committee's opinion, be substituted

for or adopted as an amendment to said Sec. 3, Art. 4, of the Constitution, which can only be legally accomplished in the manner provided for in Sec. 13, Art. 4 of the Constitution.

We must, however, remember that while the Grand Encampment constitutes the enacting power, it also constitutes the court of last resort, and its decisions must be obeyed until it sees proper to reverse itself. Under existing conditions, the Grand Master and Grand Commanders are, as this committee believes, deprived of a very ancient and constitutional prerogative, unless perchance they discover a Commandery which holds daily, semi-weekly or weekly conclaves, of the existence of which your committee is profoundly ignorant. It follows, therefore, under decisions of the Grand Encampment, that no dispensation can be had unless the Grand Master, or Grand Commander is present at the Stated Conclave which votes such request.

Vide—Report of Law Committee in proceedings of Grand Encampment at Greenville, page 160, which was adopted: Also decisions of Grand Master, No. 5, page 89, which was approved by Law Committee and adopted by Grand Encampment, page 188, Grand Encampment Proceedings, 1904.

Respectfully submitted,

O. L. MCKAY,
W. A. BODENHAMER,
J. C. FRENCH,
Committee.

Report of Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to courteously submit the following report:

They have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and find that the accounts and vouchers correspond—proper vouchers for all disbursements—leaving a surplus in the treasury of \$143.85 over the ordinary expenses of the year.

J. S. COBB,
R. M. TROTTER,
B. V. WHITE,
Committee.

By-Laws.

The Committee on Templar Law beg leave to courteously report that they have examined the Code of By-Laws submitted by Edwards Commandery and recommend that the same be approved with the exception of so much as fixes the fee for the Orders at thirty-five dollars which they recommend be amended by substituting forty dollars for thirty-five dollars.

Courteously submitted,

O. L. MCKAY,
W. A. BODENHAMER,
J. C. FRENCH,
Committee.

Triennial Conclave.

The Special Committee on so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, as relates to the Triennial Conclave, submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your committee appointed on remarks and suggestions of the Grand Commander in his address on the Triennial Conclave beg leave to report :

That the thanks of this Commandery are due the Grand Commander for the use he made of the sum appropriated by the Grand Commandery, for use at the Grand Encampment. Recognizing the insufficiency of the amount appropriated to do justice to this Grand Commandery in the way of entertainments, &c., at the Grand Encampment, we think the Committee made the best use of the amount possible and we are only astonished that it did not consume the whole amount.

In regard to the suggestion about paying expenses of the principle officers of the Grand Commandery to the Grand Encampment in lieu of the ordinary appropriation, we heartily approve. In this we really do what we undertake to do, while we do not in the \$500.00 appropriation, &c., secure a safe and proper representation of this Grand Commandery at the Grand Encampment. Of course this will not preclude the appropriation of any other amount the Grand Commandery may appropriate for any other purpose.

Courteously submitted,

E. G. DELAP,
DEB. WADDELL,
JOHN A. COBB,
Committee.

Power Monument.

On motion, the Grand Recorder was ordered to execute the order of the Grand Commandery appropriating two hundred and fifty dollars for the erection of a monument at the grave of our late Grand Recorder Sir John Logan Power, the same to be done in connection with the other Masonic Grand bodies but without reference to the action of any other association or body, that it may be a distinctively Masonic memorial of the illustrious dead.

Report of Committee on Necrology.

Sir Knight Speed, speaking for the Committee on Necrology, made a verbal report, which he was authorized to write out, as follows :

Sir Knights:

Standing upon a high elevation in the National Cemetery at Vicksburg, I recently saw the great luminary of the heavens sinking in the west, beneath the Father of waters, as it rolled on with resistless force unto the mighty sea; the heavens were overcast with clouds of a portending storm and darkened by a rain cloud. The lightning flashed with its lurid grandeur and the thunder rolled its deep diapason, like a war drum of the elements, as if the heavens were breaking up, and the scene was majestic beyond description. At my feet there slumbered

upon fame's eternal camping ground, an army of the dead, all regardless of the mighty pageant. Sunshine and storm passed over them and they were not disturbed and it was the living only who were affected by the convulsions of nature. To the untutored savage, with only his experience as a guide, and no light of revelation breaking upon him, such a scene and such surroundings were well calculated to inspire him with fear, that the sun would not return again and bathe the eastern hills with its effulgent splendor, and so would it be with us, if the light of the cross were not constantly held up before us to remind that when death comes to our friends, it is not because God is angry and He takes them away from us and the grave covers them from our sight that an offended diety may be appeased, no, thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ, we have the assurance that those whose presence we miss here to-day have not wholly gone from us and we are comforted by a sublime faith that, although their sun has set upon this life, when the Master comes again, he will bring them with him. With this thought uppermost in our minds, we do not mourn them as those who are without hope. We, indeed, grieve for the loss of their companionship and in our weakness would fain stretch out our hands towards them and recall them from the mystic realms of death, for there is no philosophizing, as we look into the open grave and if we were not sustained and comforted by an abiding conviction, that it is not all of life to have lived; and beyond the clouds, beyond the stars and behind them, there is a mansion where there shall be a happy reunion in our Father's House, sad, sad, indeed would be these leave takings. With this spirit animating us, we to-day pay our feeble tribute to those who have deserved well of the Order; it is not all that might be said, or all of the commendation that they deserved at our hands, but it is, at least, the outpouring of affectionate hearts who loved them and who honor their memories.

Death has come very close to us as it has entered our Asylums and removed some Sir Knights who were well known to all of us and who filled a large measure of our affections.

Among them our hearts first turn, instinctively, towards one who was among the best known of us. O! how we miss the out stretched hand, the genial smile and encouraging word of William Henry Howard of Cyrene Commandery, here, to-day. He was of the very best type of American citizenship, a citizenship which distinguishes us among all nations of the earth as the one in which the people live and govern themselves without the restraining force of any other law than that which makes every man a good citizen and promoter of the public welfare without other stimulation than the desire of doing right, simply because it is right. A poor boy with no silver spoon placed in his mouth when he came into this world, he grew to manhood under the training of parents who were filled with a solemn sense of the responsibility which comes to every American father and mother in rearing their children, instilled him with their own generous nature and taught him

that labor was honorable and there was something beyond the mere getting of riches to live for and whether he won distinction, wealth or power, it must be by honorable means. He won them all: with a little Masons trowel, which his father gave to him and taught him to use with skill, not that he ever had gold in abundance, for truly there were times when he had to say, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have I give unto thee," but he was rich, surpassingly rich, in the affections of his family and a multitude of friends. He won distinction amongst men for the courage of his convictions and the bravery with which he followed the flag when the drums beat to arm his people in its defense. A little stripling of a boy, who had never been away from home, he never faltered or wavered in the performance of a duty which came to him as a soldier whatever its risk or cost might be; and, he was distinguished wherever he was known, as a true, honorable, just and upright man who never would desert a friend or hesitate in administering comfort or in alleviating the sorrows of others; who in the Church, in the community, in the Lodge or in the family circle, was always a true, tender, affectionate and strong man, who did whatever his hands found to do with freedom, fervency and zeal. I should not be true to myself, if I did not here recall with a grateful heart, that the last time, I saw him was when he was rendering to me and to mine all the services that an affectionate heart can dictate in an hour of great distress to me and to mine. The hand which he extended to me then, now goes over and beyond an open grave and clasps mine in that of as warm a friend, as kind hearted a gentleman, as good and true a Mason as it has ever been my privilege to know.

Delta Commandery had taken from it the venerable form of one who for many long years had rendered to it and to Masonry, true and loyal service and who carried his Masonry into the world with him wherever he went. Wyndham R. Trigg a well known lawyer and an upright and honorable Judge, who sifted the right from the wrong, as wheat is sifted from the tares; who was always a good citizen and a bright and shining example amongst the people. A humble and devoted churchman who gave to religion a loyal and devoted heart and whose influences for good were always exerted in the community. He will long be remembered, not only because he was a just and upright Judge, learned in the law above his fellows, but also because he had the courage of true manliness and ability to do his duty under all circumstances and yet withal had a genial disposition and a heart overflowing with kindness towards all mankind.

Henry H. Folk of Hattiesburg Commandery had achieved Masonic distinction which rarely falls to the lot of any of us and affords a practical demonstration of his unusual worth and ability as a man and Mason. A Past Deputy Grand Master of South Dakota, where in the early days, he organized a Lodge of which he was made the Master and afterwards coming to Mississippi organized another Lodge of which he also became

Master and was appointed Deputy Grand Master. In the absence of the Grand Master, he presided over the Grand Lodge and was made an Honorary Past Grand Master, a distinction bestowed upon but two others by our Grand Lodge. A friend in writing of his death, said that "He was a man who wore his orders behind instead of on the lapel of his coat and his heart in his breast and not upon his sleeve." As true and just an epitaph as ever was written. His life was an open book printed in large characters, and none could come within the sphere of his influence without feeling that he was such a man as they would feel honored in knowing. A warm hearted and generous friend, he gave largely of his means to others, who needed, perhaps less than he did. Affectionately he clung to his family and friends with all the warmth of a generous heart and when he was carried and laid beneath the snow by the Lodge which made him a Mason, the snow flakes as they fell were typical of the life which he had led. And when it melts, other hands, in a distant state, will place sweet flowers upon his grave, but they will not be sweeter than the perfume which fills the hearts of his friends in the Southland as they recall the honorable and true man whom they loved and esteemed.

William B. Walker, of Aberdeen Commandery fell while he was in the discharge of a public duty, being suddenly stricken and taken from a life of great usefulness in the very prime of his manhood. A distinguished lawyer, and at the time of his death, a member of the State Legislature, his death created a void in the community and his genial, kind hearted and pleasant nature leaves his memory as a sweet smelling savor in the hearts of his friends.

William S. Harris, Sr., of Cyrene Commandery, was known to every one in central Mississippi and in Meridian was a man of character and standing and greatly honored. Himself and his brother, who was also a Knight Templar and died many years since, were in the troublesome times, following the war, conductors on the railroad from Vicksburg to Meridian, it was a time when it required discretion and judgment with promptness of decision, to manage the unruly elements which had then not yet been subdued by the strong arm of the law. Innumerable acts of kindness are related of him, which will embalm his memory in the affections of many whom he aided and, especially the women and children, who were the peculiar object of his solicitude and care. But, he too, has gone upon a journey from which there is no returning; many were the tears that were shed at his departing and many a prayer was uttered, that, at last he might safely reach home.

There were others not so well known to the speaker, but who, deserved more than a mere passing mention at his hands, but want of time and paucity of material compels an omission to pay to them the tribute which their merit demands.

This solemn hour cannot be brought to a close without, at least, attempting to do honor to the memory of one who had achieved distinction

in the Templar Order of an unusual character, and who with-all, was a most distinguished citizen, James Herron Hopkins, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, and a Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, who died on June 18, 1904. He led a life full of activity and usefulness, having served two terms in the Congress of the United States and was signally successful at the Bar, and in political life. He had rendered very great service to the Templar Order, not only in an official character, but also as a writer and historian. He was at the head of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Encampment for a number of years and participated in its deliberations. A kind hearted and good man, with a full rounded out character, he commanded respect and esteem of the entire Order.

Joseph Alva Locke, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Encampment at the time of his death, was a lawyer of distinction, who had served his people in many public capacities with honor and distinction and greatly to their benefit. An upright christian gentleman, loyal and true to his convictions, yet courteous and considerate, although calm and with excellent judgment. "He gave dignity and greatness to every position" says his Grand Master, in paying tribute to him, "and was a true friend and Brother."

Albert Pike says in one of his sweetest poems that,

"Death is Heaven's dawn of day"

And bids us

"Murmur not, but work and pray."

Let us who are yet alive, work on with brave and true hearts, that when we too are dead, men may say that our little day was not spent in vain and we, too, be found worthy of acceptance in Our Father's House as we believe the friends whose departure we lament, were.

Installation.

The Grand Commander calling Right Eminent Sir Frederic Speed to the East, he installed the Grand Officers, and was in turn installed as Grand Recorder by the Grand Commander.

Adjournment.

The Grand Commandery was then adjourned until its Forty-ninth Annual Conclave to be held in the Asylum of St. Elmo Commandery in the city of Brookhaven, on a day to be appointed by the Grand Commander.

JOHN FOGGO DIXON,

Grand Commander.

A large, elegant, cursive handwritten signature that reads "Frederic Speed". The signature is written in dark ink and features a prominent, sweeping flourish at the end.

Grand Recorder.

DEAD.

ABERDEEN.

WILLIAM B. WALKER, P.E.C. - February 19, 1904.
C. H. PATTERSON, - - - December 13, 1904.

CYRENE.

CALEB T. CREEL, - - - - June 28, 1904.
JOSEPH R. SMITH, - - - - July 7, 1904.
WILLIAM HENRY HOWARD, P.E.C., - October 28, 1904.
WILLIAM S. HARRIS, Sr., - - November 29, 1904.
BENJAMIN T. PARKES, - - December 12, 1904.
C. E. NEWCOMER, - - - December 25, 1904.

DELTA.

WYNDHAM R. TRIGG, - - - October 8, 1904.
H. T. IREYS, Jr., - - - December 25, 1904.

HATTIESBURG.

HENRY H. FOLK, - - - - December 20, 1904.

HOLLY SPRINGS.

JONES S. BROOKS, - - - - June 20, 1903.
JOSHUA G. LEACH, - - - - April 23, 1904.

LEXINGTON.

J. E. STANFIELD, - - - - January 5, 1904.
C. S. DRAKE, - - - - September 28, 1904.
JOHN H. McBEE, - - - - October 5, 1904.

MAGNOLIA.

WILLIAM J. SMITH, - - - - December 22, 1904.

MISSISSIPPI.

GEORGE T. GRACEY, - - - - February 15, 1904.
A. E. LEWIS, - - - - March 30, 1904.

ROSALIE.

BENJAMIN G. WATKINS, - - - - August 12, 1904.

St. ELMO.

VAN B. WATTS, - - - - February 1, 1904.

THE COAST.

THOMAS W. GRAYSON, - - - - March 5, 1904.

ROSTER OF COMMANDERIES.

NAME OF COMMANDERY.	POST OFFICE.	COMMANDER.	RECORDER.
ABERDEEN, 17.....	ABERDEEN.....	J. L. Shell.....	Frank P. Jinkins.....
CANTON, 12.....	CANTON.....	Defunct.....	Ellington Fant.....
COAHOMA, 12.....	CLARKSDALE.....	Joseph J. Brooks, (Benoit).....	
CEUR DE LEON, 13.....	PORT GIBSON.....	Defunct.....	
CYRENE, 9.....	MERIDIAN.....	Henry F. Broach, Jr.....	Andrew J. Peck.....
DELTA, 16.....	GREENVILLE.....	Emmet N. Thomas.....	C. A. Kinkade.....
DEMOIAY, 8.....	COLUMBUS.....	C. Lee Lincoln.....	Henry M. Waddell.....
EDWARDS, 26.....	EDWARDS.....	Thomas P. Martin.....	W. M. Robb.....
GREENWOOD, 24.....	GREENWOOD.....	E. R. McShane.....	G. B. Stewart.....
GRENADA, 15.....	GRENADA.....	Defunct.....	
HATTIESBURG, 21.....	HATTIESBURG.....	J. P. Carter.....	J. W. Montague.....
HOLLY SPRINGS, 4.....	HOLLY SPRINGS.....	Martin H. Leach.....	L. B. Mosby.....
IVANHOE, 10.....	OKOLONA.....	Thomas M. Walton.....	N. A. Love.....
KOSCIUSKO, 11.....	KOSCIUSKO.....	Defunct.....	
LEXINGTON, 3.....	LEXINGTON.....	S. M. Smith.....	John L. Dyson.....
MACON, 25.....	MACON.....	W. F. Scales.....	J. O. Faser.....
MAGNOLIA, 2.....	VICESBURG.....	George B. Hackett.....	Alexander M. Paxton.....
MARY SAVERY, 14.....	CORINTH.....	R. M. Weaver.....	J. H. Collier.....
MISSISSIPPI, 1.....	JACKSON.....	W. F. Wilcox.....	William J. Brown, Jr.....
ROSALIE, 5.....	NATCHEZ.....	Louis A. Benoist.....	Charles F. Merriek.....
St. CYR, 6.....	WATER VALLEY.....	Garland D. Brown.....	C. E. Romberger.....
St. ELMO, 18.....	BROOKHAVEN.....	John E. Seavey.....	Charles Gratton.....
THE COAST, 19.....	BILOXI.....	Lewis R. Bowen.....	Henry E. Meaut.....
WEST POINT, 20.....	WEST POINT.....	R. M. Trotter.....	D. A. Meek.....
WINONA, 7.....	WINONA.....	Defunct.....	
YAZOO, 23.....	YAZOO CITY.....	James S. Perrin.....	Samuel S. Shipp.....

Grand Commanders

From Organization--1857 to 1905.

William H. Stevens.....	1857 to 1858—Died October 13, 1866.
George P. Crump.....	1858 to 1859—Died 1860.
Giles Mumford Hillyer.....	1859 to 1860—Died April 23, 1871.
Harvey W. Walter.....	1860 to 1861—Died Sept. 19, 1878.
Benjamin S. Tappan.....	1861 to 1866—Died March 1, 1866.
Edward Lea.....	1866 to 1867—Died 1878.
Christopher A. Manlove.....	1867 to 1868—Died Dec. 29, 1878.
Fleet C. Mercer.....	1869 to 1870—Died January 26, 1885.
John K. Fulson, Water Valley.....	1869 to 1870.
Charles T. Bond.....	1870 to 1871—Died Dec. 14, 1872.
William S. Patton.....	1871 to 1872—Died July 5, 1889.
Enoch George DeLap, Natchez.....	1872 to 1873.
Edmund T. Henry.....	1873 to 1874—Died April 19, 1881.
Phineas M. Savery, Tupelo.....	1874 to 1875.
Gid. W. Cox.....	1875 to 1876—Died July 9, 1900.
Oliver Clifton.....	1876 to 1877—Died January 2, 1905.
William A. Fairchild.....	1877 to 1878—Died Sept. 20, 1878.
William Gallatin Paxton.....	1878 to 1879—Died October 26, 1889.
Charles M. Erwin.....	1879 to 1880—(Non-resident.)
William G. Benbrook, Natchez.....	1880 to 1881.
William French.....	1881 to 1882—Died April 28, 1884.
James T. Meade.....	1882 to 1883—Died March 8, 1903.
Henry M. Romberger, Winona.....	1883 to 1884.
W. P. Towler.....	1884 to 1885—Died March 30, 1893.
John H. Gordon, Port Gibson.....	1885 to 1886—Died Feb. 17, 1902.
Bolivar A. Vaughan.....	1886 to 1887—Died November 5, 1897.
Nathan S. Walker.....	1887 to 1888—Died August 12, 1895.
Frederic Speed, Vicksburg.....	1888 to 1890.
James J. Hayes, Vicksburg.....	1890 to 1891.
Joseph Edward Leigh.....	1891 to 1892—Died November 7, 1891.
William A. Bodenhamer, Okolona.....	1892 to 1893.
Samuel W. Ferguson, Greenville.....	1893 to 1894.
James C. French, Natchez.....	1894 to 1895.
Frank P. Jenkins, Aberdeen.....	1895 to 1896.
James M. Buchanan, Meridian.....	1896 to 1897.
James T. Harrison, Columbus.....	1897 to 1898.
William Starling.....	1898 to 1899—Died Dec. 10, 1900.
John S. Cobb, Verona.....	1899 to 1900.
John A. B. Jones, Magnolia.....	1900 to 1901.
Harry T. Howard, Biloxi.....	1901 to 1902.
Oliver Lee McKay, Meridian.....	1902 to 1903.
Robert Hiram Henry, Jackson.....	1903 to 1904.
Frank Burkitt, Okolona.....	1904 to 1905.
John Foggo Dixon, Natchez.....	1905 to 1906.

Honorary Past Grand Commanders.

John Logan Power, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1891—Died Sept. 24, 1901.
John David Miles, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1892.
Gus. J. Bahin, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1896.

Grand Representatives

Commissioned to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

<i>Grand Commandery.</i>	<i>Representative—Postoffice.</i>	<i>Date of Commission.</i>
Alabama.....	N. G. Augustus, Okolona.....	Reappointed Dec. 23, 1901, Nov. 10, 1904.
Arizona.....	O. A. Harrison, P.M.C., Meridian.....	June 26, 1902.
Arkansas.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Biloxi.....	February 7, 1899, re-appointed Nov. 10, 1904.
California.....	Phineas M. Savery, P.G.C., Tupelo.....	March 27, 1890.
Colorado.....	George S. Hunter, P.M.C., Bolton.....	December 6, 1904.
Connecticut.....	Garland D. Brown, Water Valley.....	November 1, 1898, renewed M'ch 15, 1902, October 8, 1904.
District Columbia.....	Edwin J. Martin, Meridian.....	December 24, 1898, renewed Dec. 31, 1904.
Florida.....	J. E. Seavey, Brookhaven.....	July 28, 1899, renewed March 13, 1902, November 11, 1904.
Georgia.....	J. C. French, P.G.C., Natchez.....	October 15, 1901, renewed Nov. 11, 1904.
Illinois.....	James K. Moore, Vicksburg.....	January 2, 1899, renewed Dec. 26, 1901, Nov. 10, 1904.
Indiana.....	C. E. Grafton, Brookhaven.....	July 25, 1899.
Iowa.....	Frederic Speed, P.G.C., Vicksburg.....	December 28, 1898, renewed March 15, 1902, December 30, 1904.
Kansas.....	Wm. G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Natchez.....	July 13, 1898, renewed March 17, 1902, December 5, 1904.
Kentucky.....	Cass Oltenburg, Lexington.....	January 25, 1899.
Louisiana.....	Enoch Geo. DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.....	1892.
Maine.....	C. L. Lincoln, Columbus.....	October 16, 1896, renewed Dec. 7, 1904.
Massachusetts & Rhode Island.....	John S. Cobb, P.G.C., Verona.....	August 1898, September 9, 1904.
Maryland.....	James T. Harrison, P.G.C., Columbus.....	October 15, 1898, renewed February 24, 1892, Dec. 8, 1904.
Minnesota.....	H. M. Romberger, P.G.C., Winona.....	November 23, 1891.
Missouri.....	M. Leith Stigler, Yazoo City.....	Sept. 15, 1903, renewed Nov. 1, 1904.
Montana.....	DeB. Waddell, G.G.E.N., Meridian.....	March 30, 1902.
Nebraska.....	Emmet N. Thomas, Greenville.....	April 12, 1904.
New Hampshire.....	Benjamin V. White, Meridian.....	February 8, 1901, renewed Nov. 20, 1902, December 5, 1904.
New Jersey.....	E. Ernest Clement, Ocean Springs.....	August 21, 1899, renewed Nov. 10, 1904.
New Mexico.....	Thomas B. Franklin, Columbus.....	August 14, 1902.
New York.....	Enoch Geo. DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.....	January 15, 1890, renewed Dec. 1, 1904.
North Carolina.....	Jas. M. Buchanan, P.G.C., Meridian.....	December 7, 1904.
North Dakota.....	John D. Miles, Vicksburg.....	December 23, 1901, renewed Dec. 7, 1904.
Ohio.....	Jno. A. B. Jones, P.G.C., Hazlehurst.....	December 12, 1902.
Oregon.....	Geo. C. Myers, P.E.C., Holly Springs.....	January 11, 1902, renewed Dec. 12, 1904.
Pennsylvania.....	Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Meridian.....	December 18, 1898, renewed M'ch 14, 1902, Nov. 9, 1904.
South Dakota.....	William G. Sykes, Aberdeen.....	April 4, 1902.
Tennessee.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Biloxi.....	November 19, 1898, renewed Dec. 1, 1904.
Texas.....	G. J. Bahin, P.G.C., Natchez.....	June 5, 1899, renewed December 10, 1904.
Vermont.....	James J. Hays, P.G.C., Vicksburg.....	July, 1896.
Virginia.....	Wm. G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Natchez.....	Renewed March 17, 1902, Dec. 12, 1904.
West Virginia.....	W. A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C., Okolona.....	November 20, 1895.
Wisconsin.....	John A. Dix, Natchez.....	January 10, 1905.
Wyoming.....	Melvin R. Grant, P.E.C., Meridian.....	

Grand Representatives

Commissioned by the Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

<i>Grand Commandery.</i>	<i>Representative—Postoffice.</i>	<i>Date of Commission.</i>
Alabama	Henry M. Matthews, Montgomery.....	November 1, 1904.
Arizona	James Manoaah Swetman, Phoenix.....	July 2, 1902.
Arkansas	T. H. Jackson, Brinkley.....	{ Nov. 1, 1902, renewed Nov. 1, 1904.
California	Carroll Cook, San Francisco.....	Dec. 19, 1900.
Colorado	Alfonso A. Burnard, Leadville.....	Jan. 2, 1890.
Connecticut.....	William C. Comstock, Meriden.....	{ Nov. 26, 1902, re- newed Sept. 30, 1904.
District Columbia.....	Albert B. Jackson, Washington.....	Oct. 10, 1896.
Florida	Albert P. Morrow, Gainesville.....	Nov. 1, 1904.
Georgia	Thomas E. Fletcher, Forsyth.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 3, 1904.
Illinois.....	James G. Elwood, Joliet.....	{ January 9, 1899, renewed Feb. 7, 1902.
Indiana	Frederick Glass, Madison	{ August 17, 1899, renewed Feb. 9, 1902.
Iowa	Henri K. Pratt, Keokuk.....	Nov. 1, 1904.
Kansas.....	Willis S. Maynard, Kingman	Dec. 2, 1904.
Kentucky	Alfred H. Bryant, Covington.....	Sept. 14, 1902.
Louisiana	Joseph H. DeGrange, New Orleans...	
Maine.....	Cyrus W. Davis, Waterville	{ Feb. 2, 1902, renewed Nov. 2, 1904.
Maryland	James F. Allen, Rockwell	Nov. 2, 1904.
Massachusetts & Rhode Island. }	Benjamin W. Rowell, Lynn.....	{ Dec. 16, 1892, renewed Feb. 7, 1902. { ec. 2, 1904.
Minnesota	Charles H. Mix, Crookston.....	{ June 28, 1893, renewed Feb. 7, 1902.
Missouri.....	Alex. M. Dockery, St. Louis.....	{ February 5, 1890, re- newed Feb. 7, 1902, Dec. 3, 1904.
Montana.....	E. D. Aikin, Butte City.....	July 10, 1901.
Nebraska	Louis F. DeLorimier, Omaha.....	Oct. 8, 1896.
New Hampshire...	Daniel C. Roberts, Concord.....	{ July 22, 1899, renewed Feb. 7, 1902. Dec. 2, 1904.
New Jersey.....		
New York.....	John H. Chapman, Newberg.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 3, 1904.
North Carolina.....	Martin S. Williard, Wilmington.....	March 9, 1897.
North Dakota	Frank H. Sprague, Grafton.....	Feb. 8, 1902.
New Mexico.....	Jason W. James, Roswell.....	Nov. 1, 1902.
Ohio.....	George E. McNab, Youngstown.....	Dec. 9, 1904.
Oregon.....	Irvin W. Pratt.....	Aug. 19, 1889.
Pennsylvania	John F. Rau, Philadelphia.....	{ Feb. 17, 1901, renewed Jan. 3, 1905.
South Dakota	William H. Roddle, Brooklings.....	{ Feb. 17, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Tennessee.....	James Park Hanner, Franklin.....	Aug. 16, 1899.
Texas.....	Will N. Kidd, Houston.....	{ March 14, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Vermont.....	George W. Squier, Swanton.....	{ Jan. 18, 1899, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Virginia.....	John T. Parham, Petersburg.....	{ Aug. 5, 1889, renewed Feb. 7, 1902.
Washington.....	Walter J. Thompson, Tacoma.....	May 24, 1889.
West Virginia.....	Edward O. Bower, Sistersville.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Wisconsin.....	N. C. Griffin, Fon du Lac.....	
Wyoming	Samuel Earhart, Cheyenne.....	Jan. 3, 1905.

ROSTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES.

- ALABAMA—Grand Recorder, George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery.
ARIZONA—Grand Recorder, George J. Ruskruge, Tucson.
ARKANSAS—Grand Recorder, Fay Hempstead, Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA—Grand Recorder, William A. Davies, San Francisco.
CANADA—Grand Chancellor, William H. Whyte, Montreal.
COLORADO—Grand Recorder, William D. Tood, Denver.
CONNECTICUT—Grand Recorder, Eli C. Birdsey, Meriden.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Grand Recorder, Arvine W. Johnson, Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES—Grand Vice-Chancellor, C. F. Matier, Mark Masons Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W. C. England.
FLORIDA—Grand Recorder, Wilbur P. Webster, Jacksonville.
GEORGIA—Grand Recorder, William S. Rockwell, Savannah.
ILLINOIS—Grand Recorder, Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago.
INDIANA—Grand Recorder, Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis.
INDIAN TERRITORY—Grand Recorder, Joseph S. Morrow, Atoka.
IOWA—Grand Recorder, David M. Brownlee, Sioux City.
KANSAS—Grand Recorder, Thomas J. Anderson, Topeka.
KENTUCKY—Grand Recorder, Alfred H. Bryant, Covington.
LOUISIANA—Grand Recorder, Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
MAINE—Grand Recorder, Stephen Berry, Portland.
MARYLAND—Grand Recorder, John H. Miller, Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—Grand Recorder, Benjamin W. Rowell, Boston.
MICHIGAN—Grand Recorder, Henry L. Anthony, Sturgis.
MINNESOTA—Grand Recorder, Edward M. Van Cleve, Minneapolis.
MISSISSIPPI—Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed, Vicksburg.
MISSOURI—Grand Recorder, William H. Mayo, St. Louis.
MONTANA—Grand Recorder, Edward D. Neil, Butte.
NEBRASKA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. White, Omaha.
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Grand Recorder, Frank Dana Woodbury, Concord.
NEW JERSEY—Grand Recorder, Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton.
NEW MEXICO—Grand Recorder, Alpheus A. Keen, Albuquerque.
NEW YORK—Grand Recorder, John H. Bonnington, 142 Greenpoint Avenue, Brooklyn.
NORTH CAROLINA—Grand Recorder, James C. Munds, Wilmington.
NORTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
OHIO—Grand Recorder, John N. Bell, Dayton.
OKLAHOMA—Grand Recorder, Harper S. Cunningham, Guthrie.
OREGON—Grand Recorder, James F. Robinson, Eugene.
PENNSYLVANIA—Grand Recorder, William W. Allen, Philadelphia.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—Grand Recorder, B. Wilson Higgs.
 SCOTLAND—Grand Recorder, Lindsey McKersey, Edinburgh.
 SOUTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, George A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls.
 TENNESSEE—Grand Recorder, John B. Garrett, Nashville.
 TEXAS—Grand Recorder, John C. Kidd, Houston.
 VERMONT—Grand Recorder, Henry N. Ross, Burlington.
 VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA—Grand Recorder, Charles Chapman, Melbourne.
 VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, James B. Blanks, Petersburg.
 WASHINGTON—Grand Recorder, Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.
 WEST VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. Nichols, Fairmont.
 WISCONSIN—Grand Recorder, William W. Perry, Milwaukee.
 WYOMING—Grand Recorder, Adrian J. Parshall, Cheyene.
 GRAND ENCAMPMENT—Grand Recorder, John A. Gerow, Detroit, Mich.

MASONIC PERIODICALS.

American Tyler.....Ann Arbor, Mich.
 Masonic Constellation.....St. Louis, Mo.
 Masonic Advocate.....Indianapolis, Ind.
 Square and Compass.....New Orleans, La.
 Masonic Tidings.....Milwaukee, Wis.
 Masonic Token.....Portland, Maine.
 Masonic Voice and Review.....Chicago, Ill.
 Masonic Chronicle.....Columbus, Ohio.
 Tennessee Mason.....Nashville, Tenn.
 Masonic Trowel.....Little Rock, Ark.
 Masonic Standard.....New York.
 Illinois Freemason.....Bloomington, Ill.
 Pacific Mason.....Seattle, Wash.
 Missouri Freemason.....St. Louis, Mo.
 Freemason.....Toronto, Canada.
 Australian Freemason.....Melbourne, Australia.
 Masonic News.....Peoria, Ill.
 Masonic Observer.....Minneapolis, Minn.
 Masonic Journal.....Portland, Maine.
 Southern Freemason.....Atlanta, Ga.
 Trestleboard.....190 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Texas Freemason.....San Antonio, Texas.

STATUTES.

REPRESENTATION BY PROXY.

Section 1. All the elective officers of this Grand Commandery, all Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains-General who are members of Commanderies within this jurisdiction, and the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain-General of each Commandery, may appear and vote by proxy in the Grand Commandery, said proxy being at the time a member of the same Commandery as his principal, and producing a properly authenticated certificate of his appointment.

GRAND TREASURER.

Section 2. The Grand Treasurer shall render to the Grand Commandery at each annual Grand Conclave a true and perfect account of all moneys received or disbursed by him, and such other accounts as may be required by the Grand Commander from time to time, and he shall only pay out any of the funds in his hands upon the warrant of the Grand Recorder, issued by order of and countersigned by the Grand Commander; and shall receive an annual salary of Fifty Dollars in full for his services.

GRAND RECORDER.

Section 3. The Grand Recorder shall receive and collect all the revenues of the Grand Commandery, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer at intervals of not more than thirty days after their receipt by him; he shall render an account to the Grand Commandery at each of its annual Grand Conclaves and to the Grand Commander as often as he may require, of all moneys received by him and paid over by him to the Grand Treasurer, showing the date, source and amount thereof, and he shall likewise report all the transactions of his office. And for his services he shall be paid an annual salary of Five Hundred Dollars.

CHARTER FEE.

Section 4. The fee for a Dispensation for a New Commandery shall be One Hundred Dollars, to be paid before the Dispensation issues, and there shall be no Charter fee.

ANNUAL DUES.

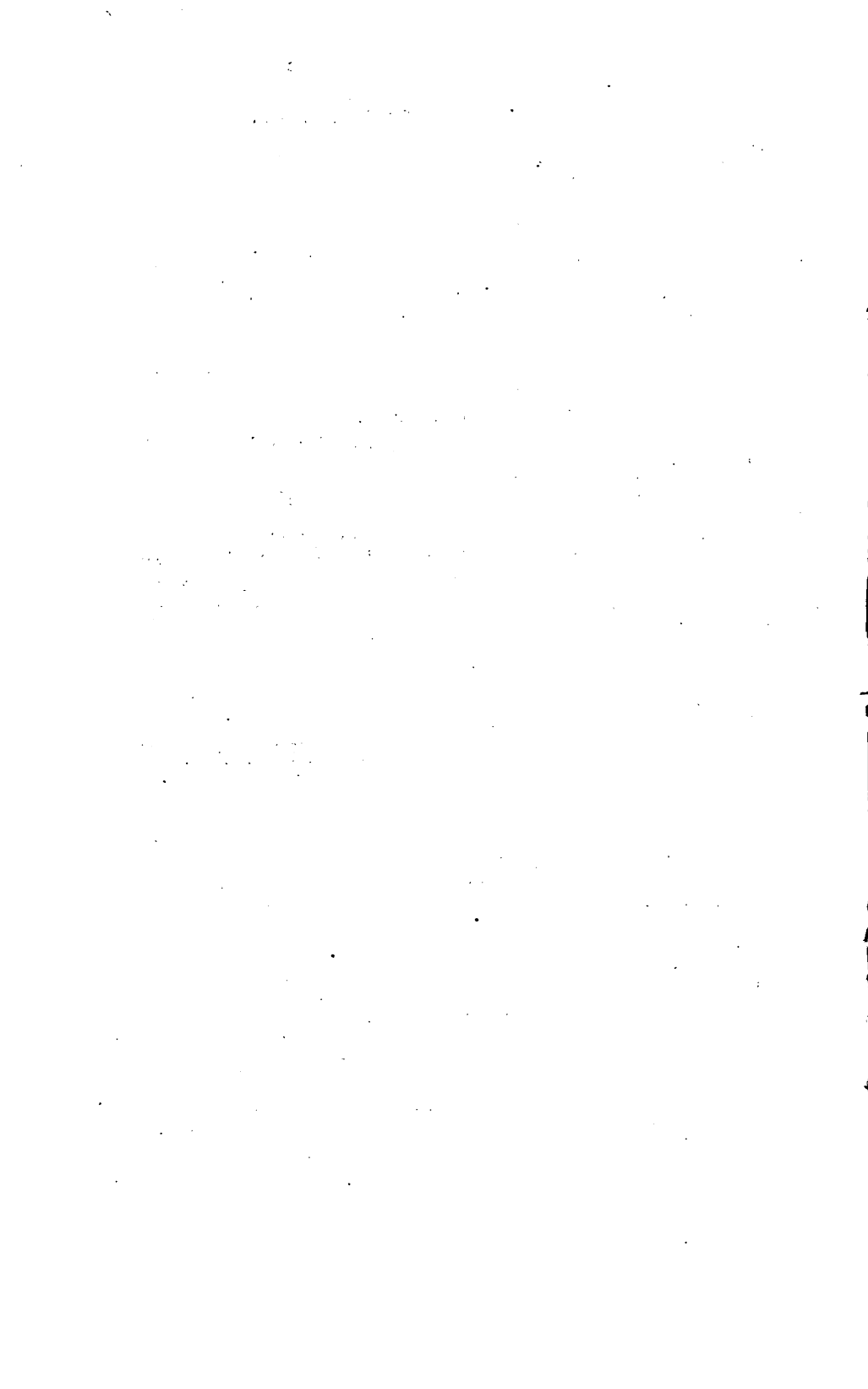
Section 5. There shall be paid by each Commandery when its annual return is sent in, for every Knight Templar created therein during the preceding year, the sum of Five Dollars, and at the same time for every member upon the roll of each Chartered Commandery, on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, the sum of One Dollar.

FEE FOR ORDERS.

Section 6. No Commandery shall confer the Orders of Knighthood for a less sum than Forty Dollars, which must accompany the petition, to be refunded to the candidate if he shall be rejected.

EXPENSES OF MEMBERS.

Section 7. The Grand Officers, Members of Standing Committees and the Eminent Commander, or his proxy, of each Commandery, whose returns shall have been made and dues to the Grand Commandery paid, shall be reimbursed for their attendance, to the extent of their actual expenses, excluding all compensation paid in other Masonic Grand bodies, meeting during the same week and at the same place.



FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1904.

Including Officers for 1905.

ABERDEEN COMMANDERY, No. 17.—ABERDEEN, MONROE COUNTY.

Regular Conclave 4th. Monday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

J. L. Shell.....	Commander.	J. W. Eckford, P.E.C.....	Treasurer
R. P. Wendel.....	Gen'o.	Frank P. Jenkins, P.G.C.....	Recorder
S. H. Berg.....	C. G.	P. W. Lusk.....	St. Bearer
L. G. Nesbit, P.E.C.....	S. W.	James H. Murphy.....	Sw. Bearer
William Kimmell.....	J. W.	Wiley H. Clifton, P.E.C.....	Warder
A. Clarence Lowe, P.E.C.....	Prelate.	Joseph Horn.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—William G. Sykes, G. S. Clopton, J. J. McDonald.

MEMBERS.—R. L. Bartholomew, L. A. Bodine, J. A. Bowen, W. O. Butler, R. C. Cadden, R. P. Clack, C. W. Green, J. M. Higgason, W. S. Lindawood, R. R. Love, J. A. Mayfield, C. C. Medley, M. P. Reed, E. W. Holmes, T. B. Holmes, C. T. Schubert, E. G. Smith, E. L. Sykes, W. C. Sykes, D. Y. Wisson, Edgar Wilson, J. C. Park, H. L. Blankenbaker, H. C. Hamilton.—Total 39.

DIED.—William B. Walker, P.E.C., February 19, 1904, C. H. Patterson, December 13, 1904.

COAHOMA COMMANDERY, No. 22.—CLARKSDALE, COAHOMA COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves 2nd. Tuesday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Joseph J. Brooks.....	Commander.	J. H. Johnson.....	Treasurer
John S. Brooks, P.E.C.....	Gen'o.	Ellington Fant.....	Recorder
Edward M. Fant.....	C. G.	C. E. McDaniel.....	St. Bearer
T. H. McKenzie.....	S. W.	Jacob Thompson.....	Sw. Bearer
B. T. Markette.....	J. W.	J. T. Mills.....	Warder
W. E. Dickey.....	Prelate.	S. Frederic Carr.....	Sentinel

MEMBERS.—G. W. Butler, Jr., A. T. Butler, J. W. Cutrer, J. B. Chism, John T. Cox, M. E. Denton, R. B. Hebdon, F. L. Hope, J. T. Longino, R. B. Logan, W. P. Moore, J. W. Mack, John H. McCraney, W. C. Weathersby.—Total 26.

KNIGHTED.—John T. Cox, Ellington Fant, R. B. Logan, J. H. McCraney, Jacob Thompson.

CYRENE COMMANDERY, No. 9.—MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Thursday night of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Henry F. Broach, Jr.....	Commander.	Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.....	Treasurer
J. W. Hagenmeyer.....	Gen'o.	Andrew Jackson Peck.....	Recorder
P. A. Broach.....	C. G.	M. M. Klein.....	St. Bearer
Allen G. McCants.....	S. W.	Ed. W. Walsh.....	Sw. Bearer
Jno. Watson Moore.....	J. W.	Walker P. Broach.....	Warder
DeB. Waddell, P.E.C.....	Prelate.	David A. Ray.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—James M. Buchanan, P.G.C., G. Smallshaf, O. A. Harrison, Benjamin V. White, Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C., J. H. Stoltzfus, Melvin R. Grant, Robt. E. Moody, Frank E. Smith.

MEMBERS.—B. J. Allen, A. B. Amis, Wm. J. Anderson, E. A. Archer, Sam N. Askew, W. E. Baskin, T. A. Baucum, G. A. Baxter, E. S. Bostick, A. S. Bozeman, F. V. Brahan, F. D. Bradley, C. Y. Brandan, E. E. Broach, Walter E. Broach, Jas. W. Brewster, F. W. Bross, Ed. Burckel, Chas. T. Burt, S. B. Burr, Jr., Adam M. Byrd, Wm. D. Cameron, Chas. M. Card, B. J. Carter, Wade S. Carter, Cyrus P. Chambers, Isaac Champenois, J. W. Collins, N. M. Collins, R. A. Collins, C. C. Coffee, P. A. Crook, C. H. Dabbs, Wm. A. Daniel, C. W. Doughtie, J. R. Dowdle, S. I. Downs, Wm. H. Duff, John R. Ellis, Chas. Elmore, M. P. Feazell, Sid J. Ferguson, C. D. Frankinson, Ed. J. Gallagher, W. H. Gallaspy, Phil. S. Gardiner, Tuck Gillmore, C. L. Gray, Henry Sabe Gunn, Robert P. Hall, W. B. Harberson, George B. Harper, John H. Harris, A. T. Harvey, W. G. Hayes, James C. Haugh, George Hoeffle, T. B. Holloman, Samuel M. Houston, A. L. Hoyer, Charles W. Hoyer, Clarence R. Hoyer, Horace W. Hoyer, D. G. Hodges, Walter G. Hodges, John H. Howell, Albert C. Hulet, Frank A. Hullett, J. T. Iglehart, J. S. Jenkins, J. E. Jones, Wat. E. Jones, William N. Jones, William H. Johnson, John Kamper, F. M. Keen, James A. Kelly, J. E. Kennedy, Charles Kramer, P. J. Krouse, T. B. Lamb, Robert K. Lee, Charles R. Lewis, John K. Logan, T. C. Lyle, H. C. Majure, Edwin M. Martin, Percy L. Martin, W. K. Mashburn, Walter Meeds, J. N. Melton, Henry G. Meyer, Charles B. Middlebrooks, C. C. Miller, Edwin A. Miller, Irvin Miller, John G. Minniece, James F. Moore, Joshua F. Moore, C. W. Morgan, B. J. Morrison, James E. Morrison, Samuel C. Moseley, J. M. McBeath, B. McClanahan, J. W. McCorkle, Charles T. McCormick, J. C. McClinton, B. McDade, Hugh McNeill, William McNeill, A. D. McRaven, Austin E. Ledyard, W. B. Rogers, C. M. Rubush, J. H. Rush, Charles W. Schamber, S. A. Scruggs, James H. Short, Henry Clay Smith, George F. Sherwood, C. A. Stovall, John L. Stutz, R. H. Suttle, J. R. Tackett, H. Thornton, J. A. Treadaway, Rocket H. VanHoose, I. L. Wainwright, D. U. Wadsworth, R. W. Wallace, Jo. O. Walton, Sam E. Wilson, M. W. Woodbury, W. A. Webster, R. J. Wright, William R. Wright, Conway C. Wyatt.—Total 159.

ADMITTED.—George T. Sherwood.

KNIGHTED.—William J. Anderson, Walker P. Broach, John R. Ellis, Walter G. Hodges, John H. Howell, Charles B. Middlebrooks, John G. Minniece, James E. Morrison, Samuel C. Moseley, Jos. O. Walton, Conway C. Wyatt.

DIED.—Caleb T. Creel, June 28, 1904; William S. Harris, Sr., November 29, 1904; William Henry Howard, P.E.C., October 28, 1904; Benjamin T. Parke, December 12, 1904; C. E. Newcomer, December 25, 1904; Joshua R. Smith, July 7, 1904.

DELTA COMMANDERY, No. 16.—GREENVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves 2d. Monday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

E. N. Thomas.....	Commander.	J. B. Scruggs.	Treasurer
C. H. West.....	Gen'o.	C. A. Kinkead.....	Recorder
— — — — —	C. G.	S. C. Buel.....	St. Bearer
W. T. Steger.....	S. W.	M. A. Shivers.....	Sw. Bearer
E. L. Grady.....	J. W.	A. B. Nance.....	Warder
Robert Somerville.....	Prelate.	J. D. Duncan.....	Sentinel

MEMBERS.—S. Archer, J. P. Bailey, W. C. Boyd, A. K. Burnett, J. H. Baker, C. N. Bell, W. S. Clack, A. C. Cox, S. F. Davis, J. L. Davis, J. P. Finlay, W. B. Faison, J. T. Green, W. P. Gresham, J. M. Hutsall, W. G. Jaques, J. G. Jones, L. Y. Kerr, W. H. McLean, C. C. Moody, C. H. Millirons, S. J. Mulviary, J. C. Morehead, A. W. Oliver, E. P. Odeneal, W. B. Roberts, J. A. Richardson, A. J. Rose, C. H. Rock, A. Y. Scott.—Total 41.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—C. N. Be'l.

DIED.—Wyndham R. Trigg, H. T. Ireys, Jr.

DEMOLAY COMMANDERY, No. 8.—COLUMBUS, LOWNDES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Friday night of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

C. Lee Lincoln.....	Commander.	Malcolm A. Franklin.....	Treasurer
Blanchard H. Weaver.....	Gen'o.	Henry M. Waddell.....	Recorder
Thomas B. Franklin.....	C. G.	Walter Weaver.....	St. Bearer
Charles C. Buder.....	S. W.	J. Warren Gardner.....	Sw. Bearer
Robert G. Curry.....	J. W.	Joseph H. Stevens.....	Warder
Hampden Osborne.....	Prelate	D. Stewart McClanahan.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—James T. Harrison, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—John D. Askew, J. Sanders Billups, Willis Banks, C. E. Boyken, J. Walter Cooper, W. L. Davis, James M. Easton, Thomas W. Harris, Robert W. Hutchins, Percy W. Maer, J. Robert Mallory, James P. Martin, Robert C. McClanahan, W. C. McCullar, Charles W. Mills, Edward S. Moore, William D. Prowell, Willis N. Puckett, James B. Randolph, D. D. Richards, Nat. J. Rodgers, James P. Stansil, W. H. Stepp, William H. Taylor, James B. Thames, William E. Waring, W. W. Westmoreland, G. Bowman Wilmot.—Total 41.

DIMITTED.—G. Y. Banks.*

* This Sir Knight dimitted in 1903, but no report was made by former Recorder and date is lost.

EDWARDS COMMANDERY, No. 26.—EDWARDS, HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3d. Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Thomas P. Martin.....	Commander.	William A. Dromgool.....	Treasurer.
Archibald McCallum.....	Gen'o.	William M. Robb.....	Recorder.
Mason Birdsong.....	C. G.	John M. Rauch.....	St. Bearer
Samuel D. Hewes.....	S. W.	Wm. A. Montgomery.....	Sw. Bearer
H. Percy Birdsong.....	J. W.	Daniel M. Chichester.....	Warder
Charles P. Colmery.....	Prelate	Jacob Arni.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George S. Hunter.

MEMBERS.—Thomas H. Barrett, Knight M. Brough, Thomas A. Chichester, William M. Carstarphen, Nathaniel Flanagan, Calvin W. Gable, Augustus H. Havenkott, John L. Johnson, Jr., Harry M. Klingman, Clifton F. Mattis, Wallace E. McDougald, George C. McLaurin, Robert L. Peyton, Virgil D. Skipper, Frank T. Smith, Syd E. Thomas, Walter R. Ward.—Total 30.

ADMITTED.—Daniel M. Chichester, William A. Montgomery, Archibald McCallum, William M. Robb.

KNIGHTED.—Knight M. Brough, Charles P. Colmery, John L. Johnson, Jr.

GREENWOOD COMMANDERY, No. 24.—GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY.

(No Return.)

HATTIESBURG COMMANDERY, No. 21.—HATTIESBURG, PERRY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Monday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

J. P. Carter.....	Commander.	S. C. Eaton.....	Treasurer
A. A. Montague.....	Gen'o.	J. W. Montague.....	Recorder
Walter M. Conner.....	C. G.	C. H. Congden.....	St. Bearer
W. R. McDonald.....	S. W.	A. V. Seays.....	Sw. Bearer
L. J. Pettigrew.....	J. W.	H. C. Greer.....	Warder
S. E. Travis.....	Prelate.	T. M. Ferguson.....	Sentinel

MEMBERS.—H. E. Allen, T. M. Curtiss, S. E. Cowan, O. W. Conner, A. E. Carmichael, R. S. Cottongin, R. N. Collins, B. D. Currie, R. S. Ellis, E. M. Ellis, M. Dunn, W. A. Dozier, E. R. DuMont, D. M. Gatlin, S. T. Garroway, E. L. Gilliam, Walter Green, I. L. Gaston, W. P. Haynes, J. W. Harper, R. H. Hemphill, J. H. Kennedy, A. C. Lovell, H. G. Lea, John McDuffy, J. M. McInnis, A. H. McSwain, H. M. McCallum, J. G. Napier, M. G. Norton, T. E. Ross, C. L. Rice, C. Z. Stevens, V. M. Scanlon, J. E. Taylor, A. F. Thomasson, J. F. Wilder.—Total 50.

KNIGHTED.—E. R. DuMont, A. V. Hays, H. G. Lea, C. O. Stevens.

DIED.—Henry H. Folk, December 20, 1904.

HOLLY SPRINGS COMMANDERY, No. 4.—HOLLY SPRINGS, MARSHALL COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th, Monday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Martin H. Leach, P.E.C.....Com'dr.	Robert A. McWilliams.....Treasurer
Harry L. Dix.....Gen'o.	Langston B. Mosby, P.E.C.....Recorder
Charles H. Wright.....C. G.	Thomas P. Willis.....St. Bearer
Henry W. Bryant.....S. W.	Thomas L. Bennett.....Sw. Bearer
Wm. B. Bradberry, P.E.C.....J. W.	P. E. Irby.....Warder
R. H. B. Gladney.....Prelate.	Dudley M. Featherston, P.E.C.....Sent'l

PAST COMMANDERS.—George Myers, Samuel D. Hamilton.

MEMBERS.—J. H. Alexander, James P. Alvis, Alex. L. Bondurant, Harry D. Campbell, Dan F. Coward, Clarence S. Cullens, George F. Cullens, Thomas F. Gaines, Arthur E. Graham, Wilburn U. Hampton, William S. Hill, Tate Holland, John E. Holmes, J. R. Horton, B. T. Kimbrough, Stanford H. Logan, William A. McDonald, Benj. L. Milam, Newton J. Parker, Ben. F. Popham, Milford F. Rogers, James L. Simpson, J. Warren Stephenson, Will M. Ticer, James L. Wilson, W. C. Wooten.—Total 40.

KNIGHTED.—Henry W. Bryant, Clarence S. Cullens, Geo. F. Cullens, R. H. B. Gladney, William A. McDonald, Newton J. Parker, Milford M. Rogers, James L. Simpson, Will M. Ticer, W. C. Wooten.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—H. B. Scruggs.

DIMITTED.—H. B. Scruggs.

DIED.—Jones S. Brooks, June 20, 1903; Joshua G. Leach, April 23, 1904.

IVANHOE COMMANDERY, No. 10.—OKOLONA, CHICKASAW COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 1st. and 3d. Thursday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Thomas M. Walton.....Commander.	Z. T. Harper.....Treasurer
James Gordon.....Gen'o.	N. A. Love.....Recorder
Phineas M. Savery, P.G.C.....C. G.	T. J. Keeney.....St. Bearer
G. M. Davis.....S. W.	L. P. Haley.....Sw. Bearer
F. M. Elliott.....J. W.	W. I. Harrell.....Warder
G. L. Russell.....Prelate.	T. R. Shrimsher.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—E. M. Walker, John S. Cobb, P.G.C., William M. Buchanan, William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C., Frank Burkett, G.C.

MEMBERS.—G. W. Anglen, J. L. Arnold, B. S. Allen, Harry Arden, T. A. Boggan, C. W. Bolton, W. D. Brown, J. W. Buchanan, R. W. Chandler, W. J. Callow, George G. Dillard, J. M. Dodds, Ward Dawson, C. B. Evans, B. B. Fitzpatrick, W. D. Frazee, C. F. Faulkner, L. C. Feamster, J. F. Garrett, W. H. Griffin, E. J. Hall, J. F. Hodges, H. R. Hodges, G. S. Henderson, C. B. Hood, J. T. Harris, J. F. Harrell, C. S. Harrell, J. G. Houghton, J. D. Hunter, E. P. Hawkins, A. W. Johnson, H. I. Randolph, C. R. King, V. C. Kincannon, J. A. Leach, B. McCullough, John B.

Moore, W. C. Peeler, L. S. Pitts, J. Q. Robbins, J. M. Reed, W. F. Riley, J. D. Smith, W. G. Stovall, R. M. Sadler, J. D. Sansom, H. B. Stacey, R. L. Thomas, W. S. Thompson, J. A. Thompson, W. W. Trice, O. J. Trice, J. M. Thomas, R. L. Tateum, J. R. Williams, T. A. Williams, T. H. Williams, W. X. Wilson, V. Wright, J. W. Walker, C. G. Walton.—Total 79.

KNIGHTED.—Harry Arden, W. D. Brown, W. J. Callow, C. R. King, N. A. Love, H. I. Randolph, H. B. Stacy, O. J. Trice, R. L. Tatum, J. M. Thomas, V. Wright, John W. Walker, C. G. Walton.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—J. W. Buchanan, T. J. Harris.

DIMITTED.—Jerry Seale.

LEXINGTON COMMANDERY, No. 3.—LEXINGTON, HOLMES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. and 4th. Tuesdays of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

S. M. Smith.....	Commander.	P. A. Lindholm.....	Treasurer
W. L. Jordan.....	Gen'o.	John L. Dyson.....	Recorder
G. Lofstrom.....	C. G.	H. E. Buck.....	St. Bearer
R. C. McBee.....	S. W.	H. W. Watson.....	Sw. Bearer
C. C. Pahlen.....	J. W.	R. A. Stigler, P.E.C.....	Warder
T. W. Smith, P.E.C.....	Prelate	P. Williams.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—C. Oltenburg, W. P. Tackett.

MEMBERS.—I. B. McKens, E. W. Jordan, Mark Love, W. M. Meek, J. H. Watson, E. V. Ashley, R. H. Baker, S. D. Bailey, John Bellford, J. T. Buck, J. B. Cunningham, R. C. Elmore, J. H. Fuqua, D. H. Hobbs, H. S. Hooker, J. W. Jordan, T. J. Jordan, E. F. Noel, B. C. Seitzler, C. C. Swinney, T. J. Wyatt, B. W. Lipsey, Ross Love, George Nixon.—Total 38.

KNIGHTED.—George Nixon, H. W. Watson, P. Williams.

DIED.—C. S. Drake, September 28, 1904, John H. McBee, October 5, 1904, J. E. Stanfield, January 5, 1905.

MAGNOLIA COMMANDERY, No. 2.—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 1st. Thursday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

George B. Hackett, P.E.C.....	Com'der.	Edwin M. Moore, P.E.C.....	Treasurer
Robert B. Chapman.....	Gen'o.	Alexander M. Paxton.....	Recorder
William A. Stanton.....	C. G.	George W. Crock.....	St. Bearer
James K. Moore, P.E.C.....	S. W.	Charles G. Wright.....	Sw. Bearer
Frederic P. Fox.....	J. W.	James M. Hickman.....	Warder
William O. Menger.....	Prelate.	Linton R. Pinkston.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Frederic Speed, P.G.C., John D. Miles, H.P.G.C., James J. Hays, P.G.C., Edward C. Carroll, William G. Kiger.

MEMBERS.—James P. Anderson, Charles E. Armstrong, Albert A. Arnold, Emile Bonelli, Richard K. Boney, James H. Brittain, John C.

Bryson, Henry W. Bowen, George K. Birchett, John W. Clark, Jr., Henry A. Corrington. William Curphey, Marye Dabney, Henry P. Davis, Chas. H. Fife, John B. Foster, Conway C. Flowerree, Charles E. Gore, Benjamin W. Griffith, George C. Harris, Patrick Henry, Andrew J. Hood, Spencer S. Hudson, Albert L. Jaquith, George M. Klein, William B. Klein, William W. Lord, James J. Lum, James W. Mann, William J. McKee, Chester R. McFarland, William Murray, Charles Pare, John W. Parkhurst, Miller R. Payne, John C. Pritchert, Albert G. Russell, Murray F. Smith, John D. Smith, John T. Wells, John C. White, John B. White, James H. Woodruff.—Total 60.

KNIGHTED.—George K. Birchett, John W. Clarke, Jr., George W. Crock, Frederic P. Fox, James M. Hickman, Linton R. Pinkston.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—Samuel H. Childress.

DMITTED.—Albert L. Williams, Daniel Chichester, Andrew J. McCallum, William A. Montgomery, William Robb.

DIED.—William J. Smith, December 22, 1904.

DISFRANCHISED.—Samuel H. Childress.

MARY SAVERY COMMANDERY, No. 14.—CORINTH, ALCORN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Friday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

S. H. Curlee.....	Commander.	J. W. Zachary.....	Treasurer
R. T. Adams.....	Gen'o.	J. P. Collier.....	Recorder
T. A. Read, P.E.C.....	C. G.	H. N. Young.....	St. Bearer
M. T. Bynum.....	S. W.	A. L. Johnsey.....	Sw. Bearer
C. W. McCord, Jr.....	J. W.	R. L. Young.....	Warder
W. W. Fitzgerald.....	Prelate.	A. K. Weaver.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—Russell M. Weaver.

MEMBERS.—Morris B. Abbey, George H. Beemer, Henry E. Blakeslee, Will H. Blythe, Samuel D. Bramlett, John Howard Collier, James R. P. Cameron, Thomas W. Cogdell, Austin Crouch, James M. Dickey, John B. Davis, W. S. Ennis, George F. Ferris, Jacob W. Giddens, James Huff, Mark Kershaw, Phil H. Kilpatrick, William J. Lamb, John W. McNulty, Samuel B. Myers, Robert E. Nesbit, Levi M. Phillips, M. D. Ross, Will H. Robinson, Henry S. Spraggins, E. P. Simmons, William E. Small, Charles M. Taylor, Ed. W. Walton, Homer E. Walker, Ernest F. Waits.—Total 44.

KNIGHTED.—Will H. Blythe, Samuel D. Bramlett, M. S. Ennis, Arthur L. Johnsey, William E. Small, A. Kenneth Weaver.

MISSISSIPPI COMMANDERY, No. 1.—JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3d. Monday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

W. F. Wilcox.....	Commander.	W. W. Lake.....	Treasurer
George B. Power.....	Gen'o.	W. J. Brown, Jr.....	Recorder
A. P. Lusk.....	C. G.	.....	St. Bearer
Thomas P. Sparks.....	S. W.	.....	Sw. Bearer
J. J. Payne.....	J. W.	W. B. Taylor.....	Warder
A. C. Crowder.....	Prelate.	George F. Swann.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George Lemon, John A. B. Jones, P.G.C., Robert Hiram Henry, P.G.C., J. J. White, Joseph W. Power, M. Whitehead, John A. Webb, D. Eugene Adkisson, Nolan Stewart.

MEMBERS.—Wirt Adams, L. H. Applegate, J. T. B. Berry, John W. Birdsong, A. J. Chapman, W. J. Ferguson, Richard Griffith, Thomas B. Graham, J. M. Hartfield, J. J. Haralson, R. H. Henry, Jr., Edward B. Lewis, F. C. Lotterhos, William P. Lowry, G. G. Lyell, J. F. Robinson, J. M. Stingley, C. D. Smith, G. V. Toms, William T. Williams, Henry L. Whitfield.—Total 40.

ADMITTED.—Garland G. Lyell.

KNIGHTED.—John W. Birdsong, A. C. Crandell, R. H. Henry, Jr., William P. Lowry, Thomas P. Sparks, William T. Williams.

DIED.—George T. Gracey, February 15, 1904, A. G. Lewis, March 30, 1904.

DISFRANCHISED.—W. S. Pittman, O. B. Quinn, K. B. Tabor,

ROSALIE COMMANDERY, No. 5.—NATCHEZ, ADAMS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Thursday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Louis A. Benoist, P.E.C.....	Com'dr.	George W. Koontz.....	Treasurer
William L. Wells.....	Geno.	Charles F. Merrick.....	Recorder
James A. Harrington.....	C. G.	Thomas J. Murden.....	St. Bearer
W. Cal. Brown.....	S. W.	William B. Irvine.....	Sw. Bearer
John A. Dicks, P.E.C.....	J. W.	Jesse B. Guice.....	Warder
E. George DeLap, P.G.C.....	Prelate.	Wm. C. Hathcox, P.E.C.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—William G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Charles T. Chamberlain, Gus J. Bahin, H.P.G.C., Frank S. Shaw, J. Foggo Dixon, G.C., Melchoir Beltzhoover, James C. French, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—Samuel D. Baker, J. Oscar Bailey, George M. Brown, James A. Clinton, Lemuel P. Conner, William O. Dobyns, Landry C. Ducotte, James S. Flemming, Allison H. Foster, Edmund B. Geddes, James F. Hill, Samuel P. Hornsby, William J. Kaiser, Herbert L. Klapp, C. Henry Keim, Bernard H. Knox, Rufus F. Learned, William H. Lynch, Louis R. Martin, Henry McDermott, Seaborn McDowell, Stephen D. McNair, Martin Neiheysel, Edward H. Prince, R. Lee Parker, Lee B.

Robinson, Walter Rutherford, William H. Ratcliff, Edmund Saddler, Hazen Stedman, Henry N. Street, Henry C. Turley, Jeff Truly, Madison A. Tyer, Isaac L. Toler, Gustave A. Wettlin, Moyn H. Wilkinson, Frank E. Wilson.—Total 57.

KNIGHTED.—Edward H. Prince, Moyn H. Wilkinson, William H. Ratcliff, James F. Hill, Gustave A. Wettlin, Lee A. Robinson, Henry N. Street, Isaac L. Toler, Frank E. Wilson.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—Allison H. Foster, C. Henry Keim, Martin Neiheysel, Madison A. Tyer.

DIED.—Benjamin D. Watkins, August 12, 1904.

DISFRANCHISED.—William Stietenroth.

EXPULSED.—William H. Jewell.

ST. CYR COMMANDERY, No. 6.—WATER VALLEY, YALOBUSHA COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2d. Thursday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.....Com.	Joel Crooms, P.E.C.....Treasurer
George W. Fields.....Gen'o.	Chas. E. Romberger, P.E.C.....Recorder
Samuel B. Brown, P.E.C.....C. G.	Frank S. Stewart.....St. Bearer
Frank B. DeShon.....S. W.	George J. Robertson.....Sw. Bearer
Robert W. Hellums.....J. W.	Elbert M. Page.....Warder
D. Harry Hallowell.....Prelate.	Daniel W. McMillan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—John K. Fulson, P.G.C., Henry M. Romberger, P.G.C., William H. Price.

MEMBERS.—W. H. Askew, J. V. Blackmer, W. C. Blount, T. J. Binford, D. L. Boon, A. H. Bays, C. H. Campbell, Ed. F. Crisp, R. F. Cahey, William S. Cook, S. R. Cain, Paul Clanton, H. H. Creekmore, L. W. Dekle, John E. DeLoach, E. Dunstan, J. E. Daniels, H. A. English, Ben B. Ford, L. T. Fox, Harry Gibbons, A. C. Green, A. P. Guntharp, J. S. Hudson, O. H. Haws, William James, M. W. Jackson, A. E. Jennings, Frank H. Jones, Alex. Kennedy, J. S. Kettle, J. L. Kirby, R. C. Leland, J. M. Leverette, J. W. Lee, J. J. Landreth, F. E. Mills, M. A. Montgomery, F. M. McCarthy, J. B. Rogers, J. N. Rose, J. E. Rovira, Charles T. Robinson, A. T. Smith, Frank H. Smith, T. U. Sisson, J. L. Sisk, J. B. Talbert, B. F. Thomas, B. A. Talbert, B. F. Tatum, W. B. Vankirk, I. R. Wagner, Frank W. Weatherly, Will. C. Winters, John Wright, Edwin Wright, T. H. Wilson, D. D. Wilkins, W. L. Waldrow, William Ward, Homer Weir, John H. Wagner, William B. Wagner, W. H. Whitaker, W. O. Wood.—Total 81.

KNIGHTED.—H. M. Quinn, Frank S. Stewart.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—W. L. Waldron.

DIMITTED.—M. J. Peters, H. M. Quinn,

DISFRANCHISED.—Walter Aldridge, A. W. McDonald, A. C. Martin, W. R. Ruffin, B. R. Scott, W. F. Shoffner.

ST. ELMO COMMANDERY, No. 18.—BROOKHAVEN, LINCOLN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2d. Friday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

John E. Seavey, P.E.C...Commander.	Henry A. Tibbs.....Treasurer
Charles F. Heuck.....Gen'o.	Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C...Recorder
Robert C. Applewhite .....C. G.	Robert B. Stamps.....St. Bearer
Frank H. Fellows.....S. W.	Ernest H. Wentworth...Sw. Bearer
Stanley T. Byrd.....J. W.	Eugene McCormick, P.E.C...Warder
William H. Seavey.....Prelate.	Zebulon P. Jones.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George C. Hoskins, John M. Maynor.

MEMBERS.—Alford E. Moreton, F. F. Parsons, C. E. Batty, Nick Greener, E. Ham. Easterling, Manson L. Ryals, D. Dennett Ewing, Hugh McColgan, T. O. Watkins, Frank M. Lee, J. Wess. Elliott, Lee O. Bridewell, J. Arch McCormick, Sam W. Hoskins, Duncan L. Easterling, Sam Wilkinson, Z. Duncan Davis, Charles E. Dunbar, David J. Batchelder, Hardy F. Mullikin, Ira L. Parsons, W. L. McConnicco, Halbert Winborn, Felix May, H. Ellett Magee, Josiah B. Dougherty, A. Halbut Addison, John D. Cull, Ivey V. Bowman, L. W. McDaniel, Ben. A. Williams, W. W. Robertson, Samuel G. Byrd, W. H. Jackson, W. E. Doggett, Lamkin H. Baggett, J. Meredith Wood, W. Ernest Montgomery, William Gleason, F. E. Leng, William O. Rea, Fred. L. Davison, Leigh Watkins, W. T. Denman, J. W. Johnson, J. B. Alford, Anthony Fly, Frank Railsback, Samuel U. Berry, George W. Park.—Total 64.

KNIGHTED.—George W. Park.

DIMITTED.—Garland G. Lyell.

DIED.—Van. B. Watts, February 1, 1904.

DISFRANCHISED.—Charles L. Carroll, W. Cameron McCormick, Jacob W. Boone, Ed. U. Cunningham, Robert J. Boone, Edward M. Mason.

THE COAST COMMANDERY, No. 19.—BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3rd. Thursday in each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

Lewis R. Bowen.....Commander.	Theodore P. Dunion.....Treasurer
Thomas J. Rosell.....Gen'o.	Henry J. Meaut .....Recorder
William K. M. Dukate.....C. G.	Charles W. Wachenfeld...St. Bearer
John C. Bradford, P.E.C.....S. W.	Walter T. Bolton.....Sw. Bearer
Harry T. Howard, P.E.C.....J. W.	Walter A. White.....Warder
Ed. Ernest Clement.....Prelate.	Thomas H. Gleason, P.E.C...Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Jaines J. Lemon.

MEMBERS.—Oscar L. Bailey, John Carraway, C. Falck, William Gorenflo, J. B. Garrard, Nathan C. Hill, William C. Lindsay, Charles D. Lancaster, William A. Murphy, James A. Neville, Collins Phelps, J. A. Tabor, Thomas H. Warren.—Total 26.

DIMITTED.—R. B. Harrison, J. W. Swetman.

DIED.—Thomas W. Grayson.

WEST POINT COMMANDERY, No. 20.—WEST POINT CLAY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, First Monday night in each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

R. M. Trotter.....	Commander.	J. R. Brinker.....	Treasurer
H. L. Joiner.....	Gen'o.	D. A. Meek.....	Recorder
William Johnson.....	C. G.	H. A. Linburger.....	St. Bearer
R. R. Ellis, P.E.C.....	S. W.	H. C. Barksdale.....	Sw. Bearer
W. L. West.....	J. W.	H. C. Campbell.....	Warder
A. N. Eshman.....	Prelate.	B. Y. Rhodes.....	Sentinel

MEMBERS.—W. L. Barham, O. C. Brothers, M. W. Chapman, J. R. Campbell, Ellis Cromwell, W. H. Carlisle, Dove Cuttrell, F. A. Critz, Henry Dugan, Arthur Dugan, A. J. Evans, A. F. Fox, C. L. Foster, T. L. Ganes, F. G. Hawkins, J. W. Heard, J. C. Hubbert, C. S. Joiner, Ed. Joiner, R. McCreath, J. H. Moore, J. W. McKee, A. W. Reynolds, F. H. Pardes, S. E. F. Rose, W. S. Rhyne, J. J. Stevens, J. H. Smith, B. W. Stewart, Arthur Whittam, T. C. Exum, Jr.—Total 43.

KNIGHTED.—Ellis Cromwell, D. A. Meek, A. W. Reynolds, A. Whittam.

DISFRANCHISED.—A. M. Augustine, J. H. Tuberville.

YAZOO COMMANDERY, No. 23.—YAZOO CITY, YAZOO COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3d. Tuesday of each month.

OFFICERS FOR 1905.

James S. Perrin.....	Commander.	Clifton Livingston.....	Treasurer
Jesse Barnet Ellis.....	Gen'o.	Samuel S. Shipp.....	Recorder
W. Augustus Scott.....	C. G.	John S. Hord, P.E.C.....	St. Bearer
M. Leith Stigler, P.E.C.....	S. W.	Robert Torry.....	Sw. Bearer
Lee Boyd.....	J. W.	J. Clifton Hollingsworth.....	Warder
A. Boling Kelly.....	Prelate.	Joseph W. Luckett, Jr.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—P. Burrus Powell, P.E.C.

MEMBERS.—Brad. K. Bell, Frank H. Blundell, William Alexander Brown, Samuel R. Berry, Henry M. Cadenhead, J. A. Crisler, W. G. Deles, Horton Frizzell, Joseph W. George, Allen M. Hicks, Charles B. Holmes, Eugene J. Johnson, W. B. Lewis, Edward H. Luke, William D. Pugh, Joseph D. Roberts, Robert H. Sorrells, Henry Y. Swayze, John Sharp Williams.—Total 32.

KNIGHTED.—William Alexander Brown, Samuel R. Berry, Henry M. Cadenhead, J. Barnet Ellis, Joseph George, Charles B. Holmes, Eugene J. Johnson, Edward H. Luke, Joseph W. Luckett, Jr., Joseph D. Roberts, Henry Y. Swayze, W. Augustus Scott.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

1904-1905.

NAME.	MEMBERS, 1903.	KNIGHTED.	ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP.	REINSTATED.	GAIN.	DIMITTED.	DISFRANCHISED.	SUSPENDED U. M. C.	EXPELLED U. M. C.	DIED.	LOSS.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
Aberdeen	41									2	2	39
Coahoma	21	5			5							26
Cyrene	153	11	1		12					6	6	159
DeMolay	42					1					1	41
Delta	42			1	1					2	2	41
Edwards	23	3	4		7							30
Greenwood	23											23
Hattiesburg	47	4			4					1	1	50
Holly Springs	32	10		1	11	1				2	3	40
Ivanhoe	65	13		2	15	1					1	79
Lexington	39	3			3	1				3	4	38
Macon	20											20
Magnolia	61	6		1	7	5	1			1	7	61
Mississippi	38	6	1		7		3			2	5	40
Rosalie	47	9		4	13		1		1	1	3	57
Mary Savery	38	6			6							44
St. Cyr	86	2		1	3	2	6				8	81
St. Elmo	71	1			1	1	6			1	8	64
The Coast	29					2				1	3	26
West Point	41	4			4		2				2	43
Yazoo	20	12			12							32
	979	95	6	10	111	14	19			1	22	56
												1034

Gain..... 111

Loss..... 56

Net Gain..... 55

Receipts From Commanderies for 1903.

NOT REPORTED IN 1904.

NAME OF COMMANDERY	NUMBER MEMBERS	DUES AT \$1.00	KNIGHTED AT \$5.00	TOTAL
Coahoma, No. 22.....	21	\$21 00	\$15 00	\$36 00
DeMolay, No. 8.....	42	42 00	5 00	47 00
Holly Springs, No. 4....	32	32 00	40 00	72 00
Hattiesburg, No. 21.....	47	47 00	50 00	97 00
Lexington, No. 3.....	39	39 00	25 00	64 00
Greenwood, No. 24.....	23	23 00	10 00	33 00
TOTALS.....	.....	\$204 00	\$145 00	\$349 00

Receipts From Commanderies, 1904.,

WHOSE RETURNS WERE CORRECTED BEFORE FEBRUARY 10, 1905.

NAME OF COMMANDERY	NUMBER MEMBERS	DUES AT \$1.00	KNIGHTED AT \$5.00	TOTAL
Aberdeen, No. 17.....	39	\$39 00		\$39 00
Coast, No. 19.....	26	26 00		26 00
Cyrene, No. 9.....	159	159 00	\$55 00	214 00
DeMolay, No. 8.....	41	41 00		41 00
Edwards, No. 26.....	30	30 00	15 00	45 00
Hattiesburg, No. 21.....	50	50 00	20 00	70 00
Ivanhoe, No. 10.....	76	76 00	65 00	141 00
Mary Savery, No. 14....	44	44 00	30 00	74 00
Rosalie, No. 5.....	57	57 00	45 00	102 00
St. Elmo, No. 18.....	64	64 00	5 00	69 00
TOTALS.....	.....	\$586 00	\$235 00	\$821 00



REPORT ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

—BY—

R. E. SIR ENOCH GEORGE DeLAP, P. G. C.

TO THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF MISSISSIPPI:

Before sending in my report to "our Fred." I "put a head on it," in the shape of a first class, tho' somewhat brief prologue, but as I did not protract the thing to an unwarrantable length and had something to say about my physjcal condition, the aforesaid "Fred" insists that I shall write another, threatening that if I do not, he will write one himself!! As I have no unkind feelings towards you and desire, as much as possible, to please and instruct you, I have concluded to spike Fred's guns by building an entire new prologue. Just exactly what to say I do not know, but to construct a preface to so interesting and exhaustive work as follows, without saying something, would strike the general reader as an absurdity.

It is proper, in this connection, for me to remark that the Order in all lands, where it has a footing, seems to be on the up grade, especially as to numerical increase and, I trust, in all other desirable lines. There are no questions of law, usage or custom that are ruffling the equanimity of the Order at large, its leading lights or the corps of correspondents, which is accountable for the paucity of spice and other condiments that are absent from this report.

The "Grim Reaper" has been busy during the year past, and many of the brightest and best of the Templar host have entered upon the realities of the world beyond the grave. Peace to their ashes. This is the state to which we are all hastening, and very soon the places that know us now will know us no more forever. How essential then is it for us to so live that when the final summons comes we may meet the messenger with joy and not with grief. Faith in Jesus, our Lord, and a walk in

consonance with that faith, is the only way to secure a happy death and the joys and delights of that "upper and better country."

Disease, and death, have also invaded the charmed circle of the "Round Table." Several of the "Mutuals," are on the sick list and to them our sympathies go out from a loving heart. The inimitable Swain, "the first among his equals" has retired from active service and only waits for the summons to "come up higher." His retirement leaves a gap in the literature of the Order that it will be difficult to fill. There is but one Swain, but one Smith; as there was but one Enoch Carson and but one Caswell. It will be a long time before we see their like again. Cornelius of Montana, while as interesting and bloodthirsty as ever, is growing old, as is our Kentucky Charles; Mayo of Missouri has been in harness a long time, but he would, no doubt, demur to the suggestion that he is growing old, just as I would. A man is as old as he feels; a woman as old as she looks, is an old but true saying. May God be good to us all and let us stay in this beautiful old world of ours a good while yet. There is lots of suffering, sin and evil in it, but it is the best place to live in, outside of heaven, that I know of. Mars is too cold a climate for us fellows; the asteroids are too small and one might fall off; Jupiter is a mass of molten matter, while Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are of too doubtful construction and density to be inviting to us as habitations. Going the other way, we would fry out on Venus and burn up on Mercury, so the best thing we can do is to stay here until our Father calls us home. God grant that we may all be ready for the summons.

Several of the pamphlets are absent, notably Ohio, which we regret. Illinois and Oregon came long after our report had gone to the "printery," (Fred is the author of that word, "printery" and while it is a good word and covers the ground, we do not like innovations. If this thing continues an "unabridged" dictionary will be as big as a barn and it ought to stop, hence the attention accorded them will be brief, very brief, much as we dislike to cut short the honors due our Bro. Hobson and the irrepressible John Corson Smith.

The Triennial at San Francisco is a thing of the past. We were not there, but we were advised that it was a record breaker, in many respects. We are also advised that a revision of the ritual is in contemplation. If this is true, we hope that the beautiful, instructive and excellent ritual of the Red Cross, that was in vogue before the last revision may be entirely restored, or the degree turned over to the Council. The former much preferred. The best way to settle this matter is for the

Grand Encampment to define the essential features of the work, require entire uniformity in these, and allow some latitude in the matter of frills to the Commanderies.

We have a revised version of the Scriptures, and this revision, like that of the Red Cross, destroys, in numberless instances, the beauty of the text, and in no one instance that has met my eye has the verbiage, grammar or sense been improved. I never look at the "Revised Version" that I do not get mad, and I never see the Red Cross conferred according to Gunter that I don't get a big disgust on me. There was no necessity for a revision of the King James version of the Scriptures; there was none for meddling with the old ritual of the Red Cross. Let well enough alone!

There isn't much in this "Prologue," but it is good enough what there is of it, and enough of it such as it is. If Fred don't like this one, he can use the first, or write one himself. With these few remarks we move upon the works of the Alabamians.

A L A B A M A — 1904.

The Forty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Selma, May 11th.; R. E. Sir Lewis W. Hubbard, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir George A. Beauchamp, Grand Recorder. The attendance does not indicate a high measure of interest in the Order, in that bailiwick, which we regret.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short resume of an uneventful administration, well written, but devoid of outside interest. He treats them to the old song of regrets that he had been unable to carry out his "original intention" of visiting all the commanderies, all of which was time lost. He issued one dispensation for a new commandery, and the usual batch allowing his subordinates to ballot out of time. This was all right. He recommends the payment of the purchase price of a hotel in San Francisco, which, in the absence of a report on correspondence, shows that they are long on buncombe and short on literature, which is sad.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of general interest. The Treasurer reported a cash balance of \$1,101.40. Total membership, 546, a gain of 30.

There is no report on correspondence, nor do we note the presence of our good Brother Moore. We sincerely hope that he is in health and prosperity.

R. E. Sir Charles R. Wescott, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

ARIZONA—1903.

The Eleventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Tucson, November 11th., R. E. Sir Anthony Arthur Johns, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir George James Roskruge, Grand Recorder. All the Grand Officers, except the Grand Captain General, the "Sky Pilot" and Sword Toter, were present. Representatives from three subordinates and a long list of Grand Representatives, five Past Grand Commanders and a lot of Past Commanders were also in attendance.

The address of the Grand Commander is short, probably because he did not have much to say and is not, naturally, so windy as is our good Brother Charles. It would be difficult for him "to say more in less space." We excerpt, from his opening:

It is true that we are comparatively small numerically and scattered over an immense Territory, yet we meet with hearts full of gratitude and praise for bringing so many of our number together to answer the annual roll-call. We are grateful for the prosperity that has gladdened our Territory since last we met. Gentle showers and genial sunshine have brought the reward of bountiful harvests, success has heaped her riches upon him who delves beneath the earth for hidden treasure, railroads are bringing us nearer together and aiding commerce to give her benefits to him who works in the marts of trade. Health and happiness are our portion, and peace spreads its confiding wings over a generous and law-abiding people.

Referring to the first sentence, in the above, we would like to inquire whether if the Territory had been smaller, the measure of gratitude should have decreased in proportion to size? It occurs to us that, if we were in the center of the desert of "Sarah Ann" and the Lord had been good to us, our hearts should swell with love and affection, to the "Giver of all Good" just as much as though we were surrounded by a multitude in a ten acre lot! He seems to regret that Arizona is not yet a member of the sisterhood of states as they had expected to be. Had the patriots, in Congress, been sure that you fellows would elect the right sort of senators, i.e. senators of the right political faith, you would have been in long ago. (It is possible that the word "patriot," used above, should be stricken out, and "politician" inserted in its place! There is a wide difference between the two.) He reports the Order as being prosperous over there, and thinks it will take on a boom this year, which shows that he knows that a triennial year is fruitful of a crop of gudgeons. He deprecates the idea of merging Arizona and New Mexico into one state, and appeals to the Templars of the United States, whom he styles "the most influential body of men in the United States." He says such a consummation would wipe out the Grand Commandery of Arizona, but we can't see why this should be so for it does not necessarily follow that either Grand Commandery should be abolished or absorbed. They are each legally existing and the fact that the political territorial division is to be merged into one, cuts no ice, Great Ceasar! we do not mean ice, where the mercury habitually goes to 120° in the shade! There is no

law that there can be but one Grand Commandery in a territorial subdivision; the law is that where no Grand Commandery exists and there are three Commanderies, one may be created, but if half a dozen states should be consolidated, it would not change existing conditions as to the Grand Commanderies and they might or might not merge as to them may be proper. If the thing should be done, the territory would be greatly enlarged and the measure of thankfulness might be materially lessened, for blessings received. "It is an ill wind that blows no good to any one!" He seems to have but little conception of the "Eternal fitness of things," as the following deliverance will prove:

It having been brought to my knowledge that at least one of our Commanderies attended Divine service in plain clothes, and not as a uniformed body, I recommend that the regulation be added to and that each Commandery be required to attend Divine service in a body and in full uniform, thus demonstrating to the world that our Order is founded upon the practice of the Christian virtues, and that we are believers in the Christian religion.

Fiddlesticks! The idea that a showy uniform, waving plumes and "trusty claymores," flapping round the legs and tripping up the wearers, demonstrates the virtues of the Order! What do we care for the advertisement—are we soliciting recruits? Better go to church in ordinary Sunday-go-to-meeting-clothes. Anything which makes an alleged worshiper conspicuous, except his life and devotion to God, is out of place.

Proceedings were routine and of local interest. Finances healthy; cash balance, \$568.73. The Grand Recorder allowed the printers to euchre him in the price for printing 600 copies of their proceedings, a pamphlet of less than 100 pp, for which he paid \$374.00. Our Grand Lodge proceedings, making a pamphlet of over 400 pp, only costs us \$500.00 in round numbers. Total membership, 225, a gain of 9.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Is the second or third offense of our Brother Morford and is a good report. Forty-two Grand Jurisdictions are digested, our own proceedings at Biloxi, included.

Our good brother's attention to Mississippi is very full and fraternal. He commends the address of Brother McKay, and the eulogy of the dead of the Templar world, by Brother Speed, suggesting that the latter method is preferable to the usual custom of a committee on Necrology, in which we concur.

He accuses us of a display of ill humor, in our review of Brother Belden's utterance in regard to us, in his last report, adding that this fact "sadly mars and detracts much from the dignity and pleasure of a somewhat piquant discussion."

We beg to suggest to our friend, that we are not always mad, when we look ugly and talk plain. We admit that our Brother Charles is above the ordinary, in intelligence and learning, but we deny that he is wholly "IT", or that he is sufficiently so to entitle him to the high and

lofty position of Mentor in the Corps Reportorial. "Well, scacely!" We excerpt his conclusion:

To the Knights of the Round Table we desire to tender our sincere thanks for their generous reception of our last years' efforts in this new line of Templar duty. Their fraternal courtesy and manly cordiality convey to us renewed and deeper impression of the liberality of spirit and nobleness of heart that must ever distinguish and characterize the genuine Knight Templar wherever he may be found, especially when the duties of the Round Table uncover his real nature, as they invariably will, whoever the man may be. Trusting that we may have the pleasure of seeing many of the Correspondents at the coming Triennial Conclave, our duties for the year close.

R. E. Sir Thomas Armstrong, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent same as before.

CALIFORNIA—1904.

The Forty-sixth Annual was held in the city of San Francisco, April 21st., with R. E. Sir William Durrant Knights presiding and E. Sir William A. Davies, Grand Recorder.

Of course the attendance was large, as it usually is in a triennial year.

The Grand Commander's address is the shortest we have ever seen from a Grand Commander, in a jurisdiction as large as is this. However, as he probably said all he had to say, and said it well, we are not disposed to kick, in fact we are rather partial to this sort and hope their numbers will increase. He pays eloquent and touching tribute to the virtues and memory of the knightly dead of his own command, among them being V. E. Sir George Sinsabaugh, Deputy Grand Commander, who passed to his reward on the 2nd. of August, 1903. Peace to his ashes. The address is devoid of outside interest, but is creditable as a literary production, as California papers usually are.

The proceedings contain a long report from the "Triennial Committee" which shows that it costs like blazes to entertain the Grand Encampment for less than a week, and the question obtrudes: Is the game worth the candle? We trow not! We notice the following items in the disbursement account, the magnitude of which may cause your hair to curl, if nothing more; 5,000 badges, at \$1.50 each, \$7,500! Three parlors in Palace Hotel, \$400. Prizes for Drill Committee, \$6,000 and Music about \$2,400! How is that for high?

The total membership is 4,599; cash balance in treasury \$9,773.77, this not including balance in hands of Triennial Committee, which is \$9,933.19, all of which shows that they have money to burn and can stand a session of the Grand Encampment and not be compelled to ask for the appointment of a Receiver.

The correspondence covers 160 pages and considers the transactions of nearly the entire family of Templar Grands, and is the production of

Grand Recorder Davies, as usual, and, as usual, it is a good one, in all respects. Brother Davies devotes three pages to our proceedings at Biloxi, quotes Fred's eulogy of Judge Drummond, of Maine, calling it a splendid effort, in which we concur, and has this to say of our report and its author: "This report is by the Committee on Correspondence in the person of P. G. Commander Enoch G. DeLap, whose name we shall never forget, for the reason of its association in mind with the 'other Enoch,' or the Ohio 'Enoch' who—God give him rest—passed to immortality, in February, 1899." We are sorry that, in all these years, we have accomplished no more than the attainment of the celebrity outlined in the above, and that Brother Davies proposes to remember us only on account of our name of "Enoch." We have been hammering away at the errors and irregularities of our "less informed brethren" for near a quarter of a century, and here you behold the harvest! He hopes to see us at San Francisco this summer and that we won't be "half sick either." Sorry to dissappoint our brother, but it can't be helped.

We copy his "Conclusion:"

We conclude this report at the close of a prosperous year. From every quarter in this, territorially considered, immense domain of our Order there is but one response to the enquiry of the Grand Captain General, and "all is well" is heard throughout our national Jurisdiction.

A steady increase in membership; a marked improvement in the exemplification of the ritual, and the earnest effort to attain the high standard set for a Sir Knight who would fully and truly represent the character presented in the ritual of the Order, is the rule, and the exceptions are as surely decreasing.

In these days of our prosperity, however, it is becoming in us to express our gratitude to the Supreme Grand Master for His goodness in withholding the death messenger and for our preservation as individuals and Commanderies.

The death roll of the last year has been perceptibly less than those of the late former years, for which we are thankful. And now the Twentieth Triennial "love-feast" is in sight, and there is work to do for all in preparing to receive and entertain our guests. Hence this short conclusion.

R. E. Sir W. Frank Pierce is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

CANADA—1904.

The Twenty-first Annual Assembly convened in the city of Brockville, Ontario, on the 22nd, day of July. There were present, M. E. Sir William Gibson, Grand Master, on the Throne; M. E. Will H. Whyte, Grand Chancellor, together with a large array of Grand Officers, members, visitors, etc. The opening was preceded by a welcoming speech from the Mayor, couched in sensible language in which the word "hospitality" is non est, which pleases us.

The address of the Most Eminent is a complete resume of the salient events of a successful and creditable administration, most of which are

of local interest. He issued quite a number of dispensations, but all for practical purposes. His visitations were numerous and, no doubt, productive of good to the Order. No decisions.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The Order is in a prosperous condition. Total membership, 2,820, a net gain of 273. Cash in treasury, \$3,637.34.

Correspondence is the perfect work of our good Brother, Past M. E. Grand Master, Whyte and is fully up to the Canada standard. We copy his opening, which is interesting:

Nothing of startling importance has transpired during the past year in connection with the Anglo-Saxon Race on either Continents. The war drum is still however heard, for the United States has not yet persuaded all the inhabitants of the Phillipine Islands to come in quietly under the starry flag, and the Moros opposing pacification with strenuous resistance. In Asia the Union Jack is being carried at the head of a small British army through that "*terra incognita*"—Thibet—towards its Capital, Llassa, in order to compel the rulers of that ancient barrel-praying country to respect treaty obligations. We have no doubt the expedition will successfully accomplish its mission, and on returning will leave the open door for commerce, which always accompanies the British flag.

Of still serious, and it may be of greater importance, is the war between Russia and Japan, and the successful attempts of the little brown men from the land of the "Rising Sun" to drive the bear back to its Siberian Home, has held the attention of the whole civilized world. The question whether complications may not arise before this war is over, that may bring Great Britain and the United States into the discussion, with other European nations also, has been frequently debated and asserted. It is to be devoutly prayed and hoped for that such an unfortunate event may not happen, and that the war may yet prove a blessing to the land of the Muscovite, and be the means through which a more enlightened and constitutional government be given to a people and a country where the light of Masonry has long been prohibited, and the brethren of the Mystic tie sternly forbidden by imperial decree to assemble within the dominions of the "Great White Czar."

He devotes a little over two pages to our Greenville Conclave, all of which is very kind and fraternal. We copy his explanation of why he does not indulge in criticism, but his reasons are not valid. If you see any thing you don't like, in our doings, say so, and if any one objects, let his objections be received and filed, and let it rest at that. But here is the extract:

Thank you very much dear Frater for your kind expressions towards your Canadian brethren and the writer, which are deeply and sincerely appreciated.

We note Frater Delap's remarks about our want of comment. We thought at times we made too many, but we remember in criticising our American brethren and their way of doing things, which oftentimes appear strange to our way of thinking and bringing up, that "our ways are not your ways," so when, it appears to us, no vital principle of the Order is at stake, and it is your custom, why should we take exception if you are all satisfied to do as you judge best in the interests of our Great

Order and your own particular Jurisdictions—when no one suffers, what difference does it make if we spell honour the English way with a “u,” or you spell it without the “u,” both are right you know; and there is no practical sense in wasting time in explaining the difference between “tweedledee” and “tweedledum.” So, friend DeLap, if we do not make comment on everything that is done by our American friends, it is because we don’t want to get disliked by setting up that we know more than the other fellow, by criticising matters of no vital importance, but if we find anything we think is not according to “Hoyle,” you will find that we are never afraid to speak our mind, plainly, but courteously. But we have talked enough on this point.

Our good Frater’s running comment is very interesting and readable. Under North Dakota he again objects to the word Templarism.

We say good bye and God bless you, to our Brother Whyte and the Templars of Canada, with a heart full of affection and respect for both. Grand Master, Grand Chancellor and Correspondent as before.

COLO R A D O — 1904.

The 29th Annual Conclave was held in the City of Denver, September 23, with R. E. Wm. J. Fine, Grand Commander, presiding, E. Sir Wm. D. Todd, Grand Recorder. The attendance was large, 26 of the 28 subordinate Commanderies being represented, a great many visitors and a large supply of Grand Representatives.

The address is a short, well written resume of an uneventful administration, and is confined to matters of local interest.

The Proceedings were routine and local. The Order is in a prosperous and healthy condition. Cash balance in treasury, \$2,451.02; total membership, 1924, a gain of 108. They had a good time at San Francisco.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Is the 24th in regular succession from the brain, scissors, paste and pen of our old and valued friend, Past Grand Commander Orahood, and is up to the standard in everything but original matter. Of this latter there is entirely too little, but it does no good to remonstrate with him, so we quit that sort of thing long ago.

His attention to us at Biloxi is pleasant and fraternal. He says he has read our report at Biloxi, which shows that he is a man of discernment. He also remarks that we left him out in that report, which we regret. The Colorado pamphlet, like that of Massachusetts, et al., reached us after our report had gone to the printer, and only our regard for Brother Orahood induced us to send this short review in as an appendix.

We copy his conclusion, which is good.

“We have received, examined and reviewed for the year 1903 the proceedings of all the Grand Commanderies in the United States, England and Wales and Canada.

In reading these reports we have found many gems of rhetoric, oratory and morals in the addresses of Grand Commanders and others, but our limited space allows us but an occasional paragraph.

Lately in reviewing we notice the many beautiful things said of our departed fraters, both by Grand Commanders and Committees on Necrology. These we have left for our committee having charge of this subject, and we recommend to you their report.

Christmas, Easter and Ascension Day Services are generally reported as having been observed, in some instances very elaborately; what Brother DeLap calls "Armed Christianity." We think such observances eminently proper, and when appropriately observed they add very greatly to the interest of the Commanderies.

Official visits seem to have received during the past year more than usual attention. Such visits undoubtedly are a great benefit to the Commanderies visited; in fact, we know of nothing that pays better for the time and money expended.

The prosperity of the country generally, and of our Order in the United States, reported last year still continues, as shown by this year reports. Our Jurisdiction is not an exception and we are happy to report that peace and harmony prevail in all our Commanderies, with a reasonable amount of prosperity.

Again we thank our brethren of the corps reportorial for the many kind notices of our proceedings and of the writer personally. We wish each of our fellow workers God's choicest blessings."

R. E. Sir Richard Corwin is Grand Commander; E. Sir Charles H. Jacobson, Grand Recorder; R. E. Sir Harper M. Orahood is continued as Correspondent.

CONNECTICUT—1904.

The Seventy-seventh Annual Conclave was held in the City of Danbury, March 15th., with R. E. Sir Andrew C. Hubbard, D. D., Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Eli C. Birdsey, Grand Recorder. The attendance was very large, among them, fifteen Past Grand Commanders, a long list of Grand Representatives, Past Eminent Commanders and delegates from the Subordinate Commanderies.

The address is an elegant paper, elegant in diction, sublime in thought and beautiful in its teachings. We copy his opening:

How swiftly falls "the inaudible and noiseless foot of Time!" It seems but yesterday since, by your suffrages, with many misgivings, I assumed the high honors and responsible duties of your Grand Commander. After a year of imperfect, though delightful service, I now give an account of my stewardship.

Greater familiarity with the personnel of our jurisdiction and a more profound study of the principles of the Order have greatly increased my affection and reverence for both. Founded as Knight Templarism is, upon the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus of Nazareth, no other orders can surpass it in its incomparable dignity and excellence. Jesus Christ is the world's supremest personality. His is "the name that is above every name." As is the vast and wandering sea contrasted with dew-drops upon the blades of grass; as is Mont Blanc, snow-crowned and cloud-draped, to grains of sand of an ant-hill

at its base, so is the Captain of our Salvation compared with the sons of men.

Knight Templarism wisely confines itself to the salient facts of the history of Jesus and the simple precepts of His teaching. While the development of Christian and churchly doctrine is doubtless of great importance, we cannot ignore the fact that the seamless robe of Christ has been rent by countless controversies, almost justifying the aphorism of the German poet:

“Luthern, Popish, Calvinistic, all these creeds and doctrines
three,
Extant are: but still the doubt is, where Christianity may be.”

While as individuals we may have different ecclesiastical affiliations, as Knights Templar we are content to subscribe to the simple creed of the Apostle James: “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

Sir Knights, let us magnify our office. The cross is the emblem of our faith. “In hoc signo vinces.” As the cross in the vision of Constantine, shone resplendent, even above the sun, so should the cross we wear as the symbol of our cult, ever transcend the Crescent or any other device of man.

Closing his remarks on the subject of the knightly dead, he says:

I am loath to close this part of my address without a word to ourselves. Our honored dead are not with us, but they are near to us. They have crossed the river between Time and Eternity.

Like the symbolic river that forms the boundary between the Jewish and Persian dominions, it is a stream over which each one must pass alone. But for loyal servants of Truth it is not a dark, a sullen surge.

“The river flows, how softly flows,
The one bank green, the other sere.
How sweet the wind that hither blows!
Its breath is from the blightless rose,
Its voice from lips of leal and dear,
The River flows, how softly flows!”

There, upon its verdant banks, our loved companions “a singing throng,” await us.

It may be with clearer vision and deeper insight, they know us better than they knew us here. Are we prepared for such inspection?

His official acts and deliverances were along the usual lines and devoid of special interest to outsiders. We note that our Eastern brethren deem it necessary for a Subordinate Commandery, in order to perform a simple act of kindness and courtesy, viz: the conferring the Orders on a transient resident, at the request of his home Commandery, to obtain the consent of the Grand Commander. This, we think, is wrong, and that these little matters should be under the control and good judgment of the subordinates. He issued the usual batch of special dispensations, to ballot out of time, enter and pass through and so on, all of which is

perfectly right, except the "enter and pass through" contingent. To this we object, because it is nonsensical nonsense.

He took his knitting and went visiting on sundry occasions, and had good times. He congratulates his successor on the likelihood that he would have a goodly host, "from the land of steady habits," to accompany him to the Triennial.

We clip from his conclusion, what follows: read it; it will pay!

"Let us never forget that so long as we are in this present life, we are upon pilgrimage. Let us so bear ourselves that when we go down to the river, it may be with us as it was with the Pilgrim described by a quaint and famous old Dreamer, who said, even as he stood in the midst of the stream:

"This river has been a terror to many; yea, the thoughts of it have also often frightened me. Now, methinks, I stand easy; my foot is fixed upon that on which the feet of the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant stood while Israel went over this Jordon. The waters are indeed to the palate bitter, and to the stomach cold; yet the thoughts of what I am going to, and of the convoy that wait for me on the other side, lie as a glowing coal at my heart. I see myself now at the end of my journey; my toilsome days are ended. I am going to see that head which was crowned with thorns, and that face which was spit upon for me." * * * * * "Now, while he was thus in discourse, his countenance changed; his strong man bowed under him; and after he had said, 'Take me, for I come unto thee,' he ceased to be seen of them.

"But glorious it was to see how the upper region was filled with horses and chariots, with trumpeters and pipers, with singers and players on stringed instruments, to welcome the pilgrims as they went up, and followed one another in at the beautiful gate of the city."

An admirable picture of the distinguished divine adorns the pamphlet. A grand face and a long head. An extended sketch of Dr. Hubbard, showing the character of the and his services to his Church (Baptist) and humanity, is a part of the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and mostly local. The treasury contained a cash balance of \$1,616.91, as we understand the treasurer's report. It is possible that we are wrong, although that is something out of the ordinary run of events. The aggregate membership is 2,984. Whether they gained, or lost, the Grand Recorder does not say, at least we fail to find it.

The correspondence is the perfect ashlar of our old and valued friend, Hugh Stirling, and, like those which have preceded it, from the same distinguished source, is all that can be desired by the most exacting. The minutes of most of the Templar legislative bodies, of the world, are carefully digested and passed upon, Mississippi at Biloxi, coming in for her full share of polite and fraternal attention. He says of Brother McKay's address, that it is a business document, and well written, copies our Fred's obituary speech, in full, and commends it; and says of your distinguished Correspondent's effort, that they "are always interesting and spicy," adding: "He calls things by their right names at times, and yet his heart is in the right place, etc." We are not

ungrateful for our brother's good opinion, especially as to the location of our heart. He does not indulge in the luxury of a "Conclusion," which is bad, being too much like a dog without a tail, altho' the old saw has it that a bob-tailed dog is good for coons.

We leave our wooden nutmeg brethren with regret and best wishes.

R. E. Julius W. Knowlton is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1904.

A Special Conclave was held on the 17th., September, for the purpose of devising ways and means to purchase a slice of the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, "and for other purposes," as the exchequer in that bailiwick has a habit of being low. The matter was settled by making a per capita tax of four bits a head.

The Ninth Annual was held in the city of Washington, May 9th., with R. E. Sir Alex McKenzie, Grand Commander; Arvine W. Johnston, Grand Recorder.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of special interest. He made no decisions and his dispensations unimportant.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, \$1,054.42. Total membership, 1,692, a gain of 61.

The correspondence is the seventh in regular succession from the scissors, paste and brain of our good Brother, Walker, and while comparatively brief, contains much useful information and considers the minutes of nearly all the Templar governing bodies, Mississippi for 1904 getting one-third of a page. He excuses the brevity of the report by stating that other Masonic business occupied so much of his attention, during the year, that he was unable to do better work in this field, which means that he was Grand Master of Masons in the "District" that year. We congratulate both him and the Grand Lodge on his elevation to that important office. He left his report without a tail, (Conclusion) as Boccacio's Peter insisted should be done with his fine mare, which was a mistake in both cases.

R. E. Andrew W. Kelley, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent continued "in our next."

GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND AND WALES—1904.

This Grand Body assembled at Mark Masons' Hall on Friday, December the 11th., with the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Euston, G. C. T., on the throne.

We find it difficult to review this pamphlet, for the reason that it is made up of lists of names, most of which have a title attachment, which confuses us.

The Council reported that the prosperity of the United Orders, was still uninterrupted. Also that Chapel Jenner Hogg, who had been convicted and sentenced to a term of imprisonment, had had his name erased from the "Golden Book" by the Supreme Council 33°, expelled from the United Grand Lodge of England, and, by Statute No. 4, he is therefore, expelled from the Order of the Temple. It is proper for us to remark that if "Hogg" pulls through all these adverse conditions, he had better have his name changed, by an act of Parliament.

The Grand Chancellor of Scotland stated that certain members in his bailiwick had "gone after strange gods" in the shape of an unrecognized and schismatic body, calling themselves, "The Early Grand Encampment." Whereupon it was resolved that they could not hang them until after they had had a chance to enter a protest, and there it rests. Possibly these brethren were laboring under the impression that if it is a good thing for birds to get out "early" when hunting worms, that an "early Grand Encampment" would be a good thing to tie to.

Sir Stephen's invitation to take a drink, on Christmas Day, at 12 o'clock, noon, was accepted.

The financial condition of the Order is excellent and its growth, while slow, is of the permanent sort.

FLORIDA—1904.

The Tenth Annual was held in the city of Jacksonville, May 19th., with R. E. Sir Olin S. Wright, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Wilber P. Webster, Grand Recorder. Half a dozen Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Grand Representatives and delegates from seven Subordinate Commanderies were present.

The Grand Commander, in his address, warmly greets the members; reports that the Order is, or was, on a sort of "boom" and that the net increase of membership is 125, all of which can be accounted for by the fact that it was the year preceding the Triennial. Appropriate mention is made of the knightly dead, of his own and sister jurisdictions. He refused to allow a ballot, out of time, on the petition of a Chaplain in the United States Army, who was liable to be ordered elsewhere at any moment, and, in that connection remarks: "I notice that some writers on Templar Correspondence ridicule the idea of Grand Commanders or Grand Commanderies obeying the Statutes of the Grand Encampment to the letter in these particulars. As for myself, I don't care to promise one thing and do another. If the Statutes of the Grand Encampment are to be obeyed, they relieve the Grand Commander of all discretion in the premises." This indicates that he is, in his own opinion, more particular in the fulfillment of his official vow, than are some of the other

fellows, and that he has a greater respect for truthfulness than some of the correspondents, which is, possibly, true; if not, he is in a bad fix along these lines. Like the fellow in Bill Nye's history of England, who used a cuss word and obtained absolution from the Pope, for two dollars, it is probable that the "writers" in question have made similar arrangements and can lie, or condone lying in others, as much as they please.

He granted a dispensation for a new Commandery at St. Augustine, which started out under favorable conditions.

The proceedings are barren of general interest. Treasury contained a balance of \$637.64. Total membership, 537, a gain of 125.

The Triennial Committee reported that they bought the "Grand Hotel" in San Francisco, and had arranged for through sleepers, at the nominal cost, for the latter, of only, \$168.70, for ordinary expenses. As these do not include liquid and other refreshments, carriage hire, tips to waiters and guides, it is likely that the expense account of individuals, will approximate \$500. so that no poor man need apply. However, it is all right.

There is no report on correspondence.

R. E. Otis L. Keene is Grand Commander; E. Sir Wilber P. Webster, Grand Recorder.

GEORGIA—1904.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Columbus, May 11th. R. E. George B. Whiteside, Grand Commander, presiding; R. E. Sir William S. Rockwell, Grand Recorder. Fourteen Subordinate Commanderies were represented.

The opening was preceded by some welcoming speeches and responses, a casual glance at which does not reveal the presence of the word "hospitality" which enables us to approve the sentiment of the speech. The speech was made by a novice in the Order, hence the absence of any reference to the early Templars, which was refreshing.

The address of the Grand Commander covers twenty-four pages and is made up of letters and replies thereto, and as this sort of address makes us tired, we jump to the conclusion that there is nothing in the things to pay for the trouble of reading, and so we did not read them. We note the fact that the Order is in a prosperous condition and that they have not bought an interest in the "Palace Hotel," in San Francisco. A probable attendance of only eight or ten from the entire bailiwick, justifies their failure to purchase the hotel. It would be more than they will need in their business. He made two decisions. One that a Commandery cannot parade at the unvailing of a monument by the Woodmen of the World, of one of its deceased members. The other was that a Companion who had lost all the fingers off his right hand, was ineligible. The fact that he had gray matter enough to stock a district school and morality enough to start a modern church, made no sort of difference, but simply because he could not handle a trusty clay-

more and endanger the life of all within ten feet of him, the doors of an Institution founded upon the Christian Religion and the practice of the Christian virtues, is barred against him!!

A portrait of the Right Eminent makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet, but we would have admired it more had he removed his chapeau, or better still, been in citizens dress. However, some people like it the other way and we are not kicking against those pricks.

Proceedings were routine and local in interest. The Order is in a healthy condition, apparently. The treasury contained a cash balance \$2,368.56, and the Grand Recorder reports total membership, 1,284, a gain of 153. There is no report on correspondence. The fact that there is a mongrel concern attached to the proceedings, made up of matters that are of interest to no body and which they call, "Report on Condition of the Order," does not change the truth of our statement made above.

R. E. William Schweigert is Grand Commander; R. E. William S. Rockwell is Grand Recorder.

ILLINOIS—1904.

The proceedings of the Forty-eighth Annual Conclave of this distinguished body of Templars, which was held in the city of Chicago, on the 25th. of October, and come to us in a ponderous tome of four hundred pages, but after our report had gone to the printers. Such being the case, our review of its contents must needs be brief.

The Right Eminent Grand Commander being absent, on account of sickness, the body was opened and presided over by the V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, Geo. E. Ohara, with our venerable and beloved friend, Gilbert Barnard at the Grand Recorder's desk, where he has grown old in faithful and efficient service.

The opening was followed by the reception of a number of distinguished Templars, chief among them being the Most Eminent, the Grand Master of Templars in these United States, who, like our Brother John Corson, is a citizen of the United States, as well as Chicago. Bro. John introduced the Grand Master "in a few well chosen and flattering remarks," all of which we doubt not were deserved. A fine picture of Grand Master Moulton adorns the pamphlet, and after a critical examination of it we are satisfied that the Grand Encampment made no mistake when it elected him as its head. Of course the Grand Commander welcomed him and the other visitors in a neat and appropriate manner and, also, of course, those welcomed made speeches, so that they had a speech making time generally.

After all this fuss and feathers the Grand Commander's address was read. It is a regular Illinois Templar paper, i.e. it is of a length commensurate with the size of the jurisdiction, is well written, tells all that its author did in his official capacity, and closes. He made a multitude

of decisions, among others that a mare is a horse but a horse is not a mare, in other words a ballot is a vote, but a vote is not, always, a ballot, which is true. The decision also contends that suspension for non-payment of dues, has the same effect upon membership as tho' the party was expelled for crime and his restoration to membership must be by petition and clear ballot. This may be, and no doubt is, the law in that bailiwick, and probably the code of the Grand Encampment is similar, but neither, or both of these facts makes the law a just one or in keeping with common humanity, to say nothing of the fundamental principles of the Order. Down in this neck of the woods we frequently suspend a brother for non-payment of dues and, of course the suspension is "indefinite," but whenever he gets the cash and pays up, that act restores him to good standing and membership in his Commandery. If he had been guilty of crime sufficient to justify that course, we prefer charges against and expel him, or suspend him as the case may be, but we never hang a man for inability, or neglect to pay his dues. So far as any deliverance of the Grand Encampment is concerned, on this and kindred subjects, we are not disposed to pay any attention to them, for the simple reason that it is outside of their legitimate province and belongs entirely to the domestic affairs of the Subordinate Commanderies, with which the central body should have nothing at all to do.

As the law stands the decisions are correct, but the laws are faulty and ought to be amended or repealed.

He issued a lot of dispensations, but all for proper purposes. He has considerable to say anent the Triennial at San Francisco. There were over seven hundred Illinois Templars over there and they all had a good time, we hope.

The proceedings were of the usual character, but are too voluminous for us to go over and digest them properly. The treasury contains a healthy balance to the good of \$12,771.79, which is not bad on the heels of a Triennial. Total membership, 11,487, a gain of 581.

CORRESPONDENCE

covers nearly two hundred pages, reviews the doings of nearly every Grand Jurisdiction if not all of them, including Mississippi, at Greenville, and is the masterly production of the one and only John Corson Smith, of Chicago and the United States. Our dear old friend sets up a wail of being tired as a prologue and turns the thing loose without a tail. Bro. John ought to take a rest, but he won't. We mean desist from playing the two legged comet act. If there was any way for him to get there, he would no doubt take a trip to Mars, or the Moon, a la Jules Verne, and then tell us all about what he saw there, as only he could tell it. When he gets to heaven he can stand upon the walls of the celestial city and take a bird's eye view of the universe of God, without fatigue or the annoyances of travel, when we are sure his propensity to wander will be all gone and he will be satisfied with his home and its surroundings. We

hope, however, that it will be many moons yet before the Master says to him: "It is enough, come up higher."

His attention to our doings tho' short is pleasant and fraternal. Being a man of sound sense and great perspicacity, it is pleasant to have his endorsement of our deliverances, some, not all of them, and we are are obliged.

Under the caption: "Masonic Doings in 1904 and visit of our English Brethren," he tells all about sundry and divers places in his own state, the Triennial and some of the more important events that occurred there, including the visit of the Earl of Euston, the head of the English Orders, and his staff, and a lot of other things all profusely illustrated and deeply interesting. We presume that these will also find a place in that forthcoming book, a book that ought to be in every Masonic library and family in the world. And now with a good bye and God bless you, for our good brother, we close our short review of the Sucker State. Like John, we are tired.

R. E. Sir George E. Ohara is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

INDIANA—1904.

The Fiftieth Annual was held in the city of Indianapolis, May 11th. R. E. Frederick Glass, Grand Commander, presiding; Calvin W. Prather, Grand Recorder. The attendance, being a semi-centennial, was very large, and they had a big time.

Under the heading "Proemial," twenty-nine pages are taken up with an account of the preliminaries to the opening of the Grand Body, all of which is, locally, interesting, but is not specially so to mankind in general. Among other things, the Lord Mayor, the Hon. John W. Holtzman, made an address of welcome, in which reference is made, incidentally, to "hospitality" and a "Hoosier welcome," a welcome we suppose, not at all different from the ordinary brand, nor do we suppose that the "hospitality" came any cheaper than the common brand of that interesting commodity. It would be unnatural to suppose that the citizens would fail to be glad to have a thousand strangers among them, with money enough to pay their way at current rates, hence the non necessity of assuring those strangers of a fact patent to the most obtuse and diminutive quantity of "gray matter" that might be there. However, the Mayor simply followed the beaten track and conformed to established custom, mores the pity. We are forced to admit that, as a whole, the address is a really good one, although his Honor gets off some chestnuts that lack confirmation. For instance, he says that origin of Masonry "is lost in the dim vista of the prehistoric past." This sounds a good deal like the proposition that the two Saints John were eminent patrons of the Order, for which reason the blue lodges are now dedicated to them, instead of to King Solomon! The idea that "Speculative

Masonry" is older than history is sublimely ridiculous. It did not exist at the time of the building of the Temple of Solomon, nor during the "Dark Ages" of the present era, hence the impropriety of such claims as the distinguished speaker made on that occasion. No doubt some enthusiastic Masons will claim that Father Adam was the first Grand Master, that the Serpent was the Tyler and let Mother Eve in! It may be that Darwin would hold that the Order originated in our monkey progenitors and has had uninterrupted continuity until the Institution, as it now exists, was produced by the regular operation of evolution! All this is very childish and cuts no ice in the matter of the usefulness and excellence of the Order itself. Besides all this, the Orders of Knighthood are not Masonic in their character, except in their moral and benevolent features. Any man who is of good moral character and believes in the existence of God, and who can pass the ballot, can be made a Mason, while to become a Templar, a belief in the Christian Religion and all that that implies, is necessary. He then indulges in a few remarks anent the origin of our Order and the aims and objects of its founders and their character, using this language: "To succor and protect the sorrowing and destitute, the innocent and oppressed was their vow and life long labor and duty." Just so! in a horn Peter the Hermit did a little business along the same lines, with his horde of ragamuffins, and the leaven of "holiness" was about on a parity in each crowd. To sum it all up, there is lots of humbuggery and buncombe in this world of our's.

The response to the Mayor's address was made by E. Sir Thomas R. Marshall, and he did the thing up in a rag, and tied a cob 'round it! We excerpt a few lines:

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Sir Knights:

As the colored brother who was being led to his execution said, this is the proudest moment of my life. That fact does not arise because of the opportunity to make a speech, but by reason of the fact that as the representative of this Grand Commandery I am elevated to a position beside the country editor and the man with a tape-worm, where it is permissible to use the personal pronoun "we." You all know or have read, of the blushing maiden who drew in the lottery of love a diffident swain. You remember how regularly she had swept and garnished her drawing-room for his reception; how, thoroughly knowing his heart, she plied him with all the blandishments of her sex in the constantly recurring hope that he would avow his sentiments and declare his purposes; how spring lapsed into summer, summer into fall, and fall into winter; year after year followed each other, until care, anxiety and age began to show themselves upon her brow and in her form, and still he did not come to the supreme point, when suddenly, without premonition and at a moment when she least expected it, he struggled forth his declaration of loyalty and his desires to make her his wife. Now although she had many times contemplated with fond anticipation this moment, yet when it came all she could say was, "Oh, John, this is so sudden," and immediately fell into his arms.

Fifty Years of Templar Masonry in Indiana, was thoroughly ventilated by E. Sir John L. Rupe, of Richmond, in a masterly address.

The Grand Commander's address, while quite lengthy, is devoid of matters of general interest. He issued the usual batch of dispensations, made no decisions, reported that a Canadian Preceptory had worked up some Indiana material. It seems they do business, over the line a little cheaper than they do in Indiana, and as the postulant was formerly a citizen of the "Dominion" and returned there, on a visit, he concluded he would break into the Order in this way. The matter was referred to the Grand Master and is still in abeyance. No probability of war.

He also noted the fact that Past Grand Commander and Grand Prelate, Rev. Wm. Pelan, had celebrated the eightieth anniversary of his birth, and that the occasion was quite extensively honored by himself and other distinguished members of the Order. We beg to offer our congratulations to our venerable Brother. It is seldom that the good Lord permits His ministerial servants to spend so much time in this world, and when He does, the inference is just that they have so performed their duties as to merit, so far as human merit can be considered in spiritual things, that best of all greetings: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant! Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." We concur, most heartily, in the doxology of the Grand Commander's letter to Brother Pelan, which follows: "May you be spared many years and may your last days be your happiest and best, is the wish of the Knights Templar of Indiana."

The proceedings were routine and confined to matters of local import. Grand Treasurer's report shows that the financial condition in that bailiwick is sound, there being a cash balance in hand of \$7,414.87. The Grand Recorder's report shows that the Order is in excellent shape, in all respects. Total membership, 4,704, a net gain of 381.

Grand Captain General Melish, of the Grand Encampment who was present, was welcomed by the Right Eminent, in a neat little speech, to which he responded in "his happiest vein."

Portraits of the present Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Charles Goltra, and Grand Recorder, Prather, adorn the pamphlet.

The correspondence report is the second, or third, offense of our good Brother, Martin H. Rice and, like the others, is good. He reviews the doings of all the Templar family of Grands, except Arizona, which failed to reach him, which is bad for our Brother Belden. Our Brother is exceedingly sparing of comment, simply noting what is done, a style to which we are not partial. His attention to our doings at Biloxi, is full and fraternal. He finds nothing to quarrel about, with the possible exception of our brief remarks in response to our Brother Charles Belden's fling at this committee, in the not remote past. We copy:

The Report on Correspondence is again by Past Grand Commander E. G. DeLap, and covers eighty-two pages. It opens in his usual vigorous style, and he says concerning what is to follow:

There are lots of good things in this report, some of them the offspring of the gray matter of others, many of them the product of the

giant mind of your committee, and it will pay you to read the whole paper. Suppose you try it!

We began to do so, but when we got through Arizona, and his roasting of Sir Knight Belden, we skimmed along lightly with fear of what might be in store for us until we reached Indiana. We were glad to find that Brother DeLap had recovered his good humor before reaching the Hoosier State, and he gives us a favorable send off in a little more than three pages. He explains that what we termed his "self-complacent and dogmatical style" was always intended as a "goak," but we did not know that. He closes with, "we sincerely congratulate our Brother on the excellence of his report," and we return thanks for the compliment from one who always says truly what he thinks.

We beg to suggest to our Brother, that we are nearly always in a good humor, but Brother Belden tried us, and it was necessary to "sit on him."

With best wishes for the health, wealth, prosperity and happiness of our Brother, and the Templars of Hoosierdom, we close our review of Indiana.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1904.

The Tenth Annual was held in the city of Muskogee, April 14th., R. E. Sir Herbert Johnson Evans, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Joseph Samuel Murrow, Grand Recorder.

The attendance was full, including a dozen, or more, Grand Representatives, and delegates from all the subordinates, five in number.

The Grand Commander's address is short and confined to matters of local interest. His visitations were quite general, and no doubt resulted in good. He issued the usual batch of dispensations to "ballot on the jump," which was correct. He makes some remarks in regard to the celebration of Easter, by our Order, in which we concur. We suggest, however, that the absence of swords and plumes, together with banners, would very much add to the merit and appropriateness of the religious service. Where these are in evidence, it is just to assume that there is more of a desire to be conspicuous in God's house than any thing else. The moral of all this is: Never cut a swell in the "courts of the Lord's House."

A picture of the Right Emminent in his "rigimentals," is a part of the pamphlet.

The proceedings were short and of local interest only. The report of Grand Treasurer shows a cash balance, in hand, of \$648.14. Grand Recorder reports a net gain of 26, and a total membership of 272. They do not seem to have bought an interest in the "Palace Hotel at San Francisco" for use at the Triennial. Strange it is, as these little fellows generally attend all the swell functions and cut a wide swath. We are glad, tho,' some of the Grands have lucid intervals.

We find no report on correspondence, which is, also, strange, as these same little fellows like to talk.

R. E. Sir W. F. Bowman, is Grand Commander, and E. Sir J. S. Murrow is Grand Recorder.

I O W A — 1904.

The Forty-first Annual Conclave was held in Templar Park, Spirit Lake, July 12th., 13th., 14th., and 15th. R. E. Sir John William Wells, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir David Millar Brownlee, Grand Recorder. The attendance was full.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, well written epitome of a successful administration, creditable both to the Right Eminent and the Grand Jurisdiction over which he holds sway. We excerpt from his opening, these :

The wheel of time has made one more grand revolution, and I come as your servant to give an account of my stewardship. The duties and responsibilities of the high and honorable station to which you exalted me a year ago were scarcely realized at that time; had they been, I might with propriety have shrunk from assuming them. But with the assistance of those valiant Grand Commanders who have preceded me, aided by their experience and council, I have managed to steer clear of Scylla on the one hand and Charybdis on the other, and have brought the Templar Craft of Iowa once more into harbor with banners all flying.

There is a growing feeling of home coming as we assemble year after year on the shores of this beautiful lake. As Jerusalem was to the pious Jew, or as Mecca to the Mohammedan, so is our Templar Park to the Templars of Iowa. Beautiful Spirit Lake! a name that suggests a superstition and also a belief in immortality; a beauty-spot in our great prairie state. Like the lily, from its retired situation, it denotes peace. Not only denotes peace, but promotes peace; for I am confident that our annual gatherings here have done very much to magnify Templary in Iowa, and to inspire a fervency and zeal that can come only from close friendships and intimate associations.

Further along we find the word "Templarism" against the use of which we protested last year, for good and sufficient reasons, and it hurts to see it used in Iowa, where brainy Templars are the rule and not the exception. Don't do it any more, brethren. It is a misnomer of the most pronounced type. Our good brother Babb is with us along here, and we are glad. He paid eloquent and loving tribute to the memory of the knightly dead, and the list is a long one and contains some names of eminent men and Templars. Peace to their ashes and sympathy for the sorrowing ones left behind.

His dispensations were along the usual line. He made several unimportant decisions, two or three of which were sat down on by the Law Committee with much urbanity but still with the usual "dull thud." If one of these aggregations should approve all the decisions of

a presiding officer, the result would be that they would "go into a decline" and hand in their checks. One of the decisions was, That after a petition has been reported on, it must go to ballot. In the case under consideration, the petitioner found that his finances were at a low ebb and he wished to pull out, get his deposit back and wait for more prosperous times. The Grand Commander decided that the "trial must go on," but suggested that a friendly black ball might be deposited, as a good solution of the problem. To this the committee objected, with holy horror, as being subversive of lots of things and calculated to plague future generations, as a pernicious precedent. While the suggestion is the first among its equals we do not conceive that the order and harmony of nature would have been disturbed, or the stars have changed their course, Jupiter and his family of moons be blown into asteroids and the field of this class of celestial perambulators continued between Mars and Saturn, but the Grand Body thought otherwise, and there it rests.

He recommended the codification of such decisions as had been approved by the Grand Body, as they, thereby, became the law, and the publication of the same. A very proper and timely suggestion. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. A kindly, intellectual and pleasant face.

The proceedings are devoid of special interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$940.27, the smallness of which is accounted for by the expenses incident to the payment of purchase price and betterments at Templar Park. Total membership 5,271, a net gain of 150.

The correspondence is the perfect ashlar of P. G. C. Babb and like its predecessors, from the same distinguished source, is all wool and a yard wide, warranted to keep in any climate, etc. The report covers 108 pages and digests the minutes of all the Templar family of Grands, save four, in his usually clear, courteous and pleasant style. Mississippi at Greenville, is included in the report and receives fraternal consideration. We clip a part of his prologue:

During the year we have scanned and read more than seven thousand pages, which make up the printed Proceedings of the several Templar Grand Bodies, marking as we went along such items for this review as we thought might be of interest to others. While this was no light labor, yet we found it an exceedingly congenial and pleasant duty.

The time is at hand when we must record and report the result of our gleanings. In doing this we know we have a variety of tastes to meet and satisfy. Our aim shall be to set out as concisely as possible such facts as will give the Templars of Iowa some idea as to the condition, growth, and progress of the Order, with such brief comments of our own as we may think proper. We shall also attempt to cull, clip and set out, so far as our limited space will permit, such thoughts of others as may seem to be of general interest.

All the Proceedings received before this leaves the hands of the printer, will be included in this review. The list is not yet quite complete, but we hope to have all enrolled before we close.

You naturally ask, what are the marked characteristics of the year? At the time of this writing all eyes are fixed upon the "Golden Gate" that opens out upon our western shores, and the hum of busy prepara-

tion for the coming Triennial Conclave is heard on every hand. It requires no seer to be able to predict that it will be not only one of the most generally attended, but one of the most enjoyable conclaves in the history of the Order. Our California fratres, whose well-earned fame is known everywhere, are making ample preparations to give the Templar hosts that enter their borders a most royal welcome, and we all realize that when they undertake to do a work of this kind they always succeed. While the coming conclave is not likely to be marked by any very important legislation, yet we feel perfectly safe in predicting that socially it will be a memorable occasion.

Under Arkansas we find this reference to the giants that compose the official staff of that bailiwick:

The Grand Recorder says that it was intended to supplement this plate with one containing full length portraits of the Grand Commander and his staff, each of whom was six feet tall or over. The exact height of each of the first seven officers of the Grand Commandery is given, and they range from six feet to six feet four inches. Unfortunately they were too much for the instrument, and we are denied the pleasure of seeing the result. How they will tower above the rest of us poor mortals at San Francisco! But as these sons of Anak look down on us from their exalted heights we would curb their vanity by recalling the words of Lord Bacon, written several hundred years ago:

"My Lord St. Albans said that nature did never put her precious jewels in a garret four stories high, and therefore that exceedingly tall men had very empty heads."

Now, do not abuse us, we do not endorse it, but only quoted it to show how foolish a wise sage can sometimes be.

Bacon's estimate lets us out, as we are six feet. Our good brother seems to be fond of poetry, as he picks up a good deal of that article in his passage through those seven thousand pages, which he scanned and read, during the preparation of his report. He says of Brother Henry's address that it is a model of clear and concise brevity, and quotes a couple of paragraphs therefrom. Brother Henry is an editor and a politician and has had experience along these lines. He is a great story teller, good company and an all round good fellow. Of our report he says: Right Eminent Sir E. G. DeLap gives us another of his characteristic reports, which is full of interest from first to last. It is a report which only he can write. It is so full of good things that we would love to give our readers that we hardly know how to select. He has no patience with the use of the word "Templarism," in which we heartily join him. Under North Dakota he says:

We are obliged. He honors us by clipping several chunks of wisdom from the report, among them this, which we copy with his remarks:

"An excellent portrait of the retiring Grand Commander adorns the pamphlet. An excellent, good face, but a sad expression of countenance."

Not a sad expression, we would say, but his pleasant features may be "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought," which may have misled Frater DeLap. We beg to assure him that the heart of Sir Knight Craig

is too full of sunshine to leave any permanent trace of sadness upon his features. To know him is but to love and admire him." We accept the correction with much pleasure.

We excerpt his "Conclusion" bodily as it contains a short sketch of the late V. E. Sir Kt. Locke, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Encampment and a most excellent Christian gentleman and Templar. If he has reached that upper and better country, as no doubt he has, its infinite joys, its freedom from the sorrows of earth and the mutations of time and sense, he has made a most happy exchange, as all the honors of this world sink into insignificance when placed in juxtaposition to the delights of companionship with the Captain of our salvation and the innumerable company that "have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb:"

We have reached the end of our labors, and, as we call the roll, we note the absence of four loved jurisdictions—Maryland, Oklahoma, Virginia and Missouri. We regret to close without them, but we must not delay as the printer is calling for copy. The conclave of Missouri is so near our own that its absence is easily understood; Maryland was in the hands of the printer when the publishing house was swept away by the great Baltimore fire a few months ago, but we can offer no explanation as to the other two.

Since completing our review of Maine we have received the sad word that Very Eminent Sir Knight Joseph A. Locke, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Encampment, died at his home in Portland, Maine, April 21, 1904.

He received the final call when the highest Templar honors were almost within his grasp. He was alike eminent as a citizen, lawyer, and Mason. His life, character, and intercourse with others was such that he has erected for himself, in the hearts and memories of all who knew him, a monument more beautiful than any designed by the hand of man, and more enduring than brass or chiseled marble.

At the meeting of the Grand Encampment in Washington, in 1889, he was made Chairman of the Ritual Committee; and he remained at its head until the present ritual was reported and adopted at Denver, in 1892. As the member from Iowa of that committee we had the pleasure of serving under him long enough not only to admire and appreciate his ability, but, also, his many sterling qualities of manhood. He was, indeed, a strong and manly Sir Knight, and it is with sad heart and bowed head that we place this, our tribute of love and esteem, on his new made grave.

As we lay aside our pen with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret, we submit to the 5,271 Sir Knights of Iowa, for whom we labored, what we have found while gleaning through the Templar fields, and bespeak for it their charitable consideration.

We regret that we have only been able to give but a very faint outline of what is doing in the Templar world, but we trust that such as may read it will find something to inspire them with new zeal and higher ideals in regard to the Order which we all love. If it shall bring forth this fruit we will be content.

R. E. Sir William Welden, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

K A N S A S — 1904.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Wichita, May 10th., with R. E. Charles J. Webb as Grand Commander, presiding; R. E. Sir T. J. Anderson, Grand Recorder.

The attendance was large, lots of Past Grands, Past Eminent, Grand Representatives and delegates from Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is one of the shortest on record, covering only four pages. As it is likely that he said all he had to say in those pages, we are not complaining about the brevity of it, but the contrary. As we have remarked, in former report, we would be glad if our Sky Pilots would take pattern after Brother Webb and say Amen at the proper time. We copy his opening chorus:

Again we come to lay our tribute at the foot of the cross—the cross that no longer stands for infamy; the cross that is no longer seen as an instrument of torture; the cross that no longer is a form of horror, containing the scourged form of a bleeding, dying God; but the cross sanctified in blessed memory until its sharp lines and angles melt into graceful, tender form, with arms that entreatingly stretch forth to gather all mankind in the warm embrace of love and brotherly kindness, and from it, halo crowned, comes thrilling admonition: Let there be peace on earth and good will among men. May our tribute be acceptable in the sight of the Great Captain of our Salvation, and worthy of the heroic sacrifice on the stony heights of Calvary.

He issued no dispensations, at least reports none, and made no decisions. On the latter subject he remarks: "Interpretations of law are not decisions," which proposition we are disposed to dispute. A decision is what the court decides the meaning of the law to be, and we are unable to decide where "decision" quits and interpretation begins, hence the court decides that Brother Webb's proposition is untenable, and holds that decision and interpretation, as applied to law, are identical, and from this decision there is no appeal.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of interest to outsiders. The Order is always in a healthy condition in Kansas. The treasury contained a cash balance of \$3,693.32, in the General fund, and \$1,725.06 in the "Triennial Fund." The total membership is, 3,781, a net gain of 166. A portrait of the retiring Grand Commander adorns the pamphlet.

The Correspondence is the fourth in regular succession from the scissors, brain and paste of R. E. Sir Wm. M. Shaver and is of the usual Kansas brand, which is praise enough for any ordinary man. The report covers just one hundred pages and considers the transactions of nearly all the Templar Grands, our's at Biloxi getting its due share of fraternal and courteous attention. He quotes our remarks anent that "typical southern home," at Louisville and remarks:

I don't recall that Kansas passed any resolution of "thanks" but we had good accommodations at Louisville, paid for them, and have no kick coming. A large furnished home was turned over to us and in this

we made ourselves absolutely "at home." Here we were lodged, and here we were fed on good wholesome "home cooking." We were not at a first-class, second-class or third-class "hotel," but were as much better "fixed" to our own taste than the other fellows who were "registered" at the first-class "Headquarter's Hotel," as our modest "home" in Kansas surpasses in comfort *for us* any hotel in America.*

There are lots of good things in Frater DeLAP's report, but, like the tail to the Dutchman's dog, it is hard to "chop 'em off" for this report without danger of cutting the head off right behind the ears.

We are of the opinion that no "thanks" were due on that occasion; if there had been the naive politeness of our Kansas Brethren would have paid the debt and gone home, poorer, if not wiser men. Our Brother William commends our report, to some extent, which shows his high discernment! We copy his conclusion, which will repay a perusal:

*This seems to be a very proper place for "Fred" to get in his little say about that "Old Kentucky Home" of the Kansas people at Louisville, where they were the nearest neighbors of Mississippi, which "bought" a mansion, three doors from the Sunflower state, where something like forty of us had a royal good time, at a very modest expense. Not a little of the pleasure of that week was due to the "hospitality" of the Kansas "invaders" of the Kentucky domain, who in opening wide the doors of their "palace," took us into their hearts and it is an abiding thought that we have remained there as permanent residents, and what is more, we know of two score or more Mississippians who mortgaged their affections to those selfsame Kansans and have no intention of ever reducing the debt. If the Kansas delegation did not return "thanks" for the invasion of these premises by the Mississippians, we can make good the deficiency by having a preamble and resolutions inscribed on parchment, a mile long, without telling all the story, from the tribe hailing from the "land of 'simon seed and sandy bottom," "way down in Dixie," for the courtesies extended to them in the Kansas "dug-out." Selah! If Enoch George, who is always howling, like a Comanchie, about the cost of the thing, had been along, with Lo and the Papoose, as he should have been, that clam chopper of his would have been forever closed on the subject of buying a hotel, for one at any price, would be cheap where Wellington, et id omne genus, were the landlords. And by the way, there is a pathos, which comes swelling down the tide to us, like a sweet smelling savor, from the Kansas "dug-out" at Louisville, for it was to it, that dear, old, Brother Power made his last visit at Louisville and his great heart, which was destined so soon thereafter to cease its beatings forever, went out to the brethren who were so kind to him on that occasion. For his sake, to say nothing of the debt we owe them, we will ever wish that health, peace and plenty may always be within the Kansas homes where the dear friends he met, at Louisville, abide.

No subjects of special importance appear to be agitating the Templar world. A few correspondents are still "knocking" on the dependent membership question, but most of the opponents of the doctrine seem to have accepted the Grand Encampment settlement as final.

From a review of the Proceedings we fail to discover any questions of especial import to come before the Grand Encampment for determination.

Some remarks relative to the value of the Cryptic degrees have alarmed a few correspondents, who fear they see therein a conspiracy to attempt a fight in Grand Encampment for the proposition to make these degrees prerequisite to Christian Knighthood, but we never expect to see that Utopian scheme undertaken.

Special dispensations waiving statutory time on petitions are still granted by three out of every four Grand Commanderies, although, as we showed two years ago in our review of the legislation of the Grand Encampment, the present condition of the law is practically prohibitive of such dispensations. This arises because: (1) "Petitions for the Orders or for membership cannot be *received* and *acted* on except at *stated* conclaves" (see Article IV, Section 3, Constitution Grand Encampment); (2) and a *ballot* thereon can only be taken at a *stated* conclave (see Title VII, Section 1, Statutes Grand Encampment, and approved decision Grand Master LLOYD, 1901); (3) and *application* to the Grand Commander for dispensation to ballot "in less than two weeks after the presentation of the petition must be asked by *vote taken by the Commandery*" (see approved decision Grand Master LLOYD, 1901.) We think it therefore follows that it is almost practically impossible legally to *receive* a petition, legally to *make application* for dispensation to *waive* the statutory time, and legally obtain such a dispensation, which will be of any practical value, unless the Grand Commander be personally present, or where he can be promptly reached as soon as petition is *received*. Of course, if a commandery holds stated conclaves *weekly* the situation would be different, but legal dispensations to ballot on the *same* evening a petition is received are practically impossible, except under the circumstances noted.

Personally we have always been opposed to such dispensations, but we realize that under some conditions, in some Grand Jurisdictions, they seem permissible. If the Grand Encampment desires to permit such dispensations, however, it ought to readjust its laws so that dispensations to waive time on petitions can be legally asked and granted.

R. E. Sir John C. Postlethwaite is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent same as before.

KENTUCKY—1904.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Frankfort, on the 18th of May; R. E. Sir George Alexander Lewis, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Alfred Hughes Bryant, Grand Recorder. The opening was preceded by the usual procession, review and devotional offices. At the latter, Rev. T. T. Eaton preached an admirable sermon from: "Let your light so shine, etc." We should have enjoyed listening to it. The sermon was followed by a little speech by Sir and Governor Beckham, in response to an address of welcome, which speech was a real good one. We excerpt what follows, in order to let you people

know that there is one place in Kentucky which, in the opinion of some one, or more of its inhabitants, is a better place to live in than heaven is. There is no accounting for taste. It is barely possible that the party in question had a presentiment that hell and not heaven would be his final abode, and so preferred his Kentucky home. We don't blame him. But here is the anecdote:

A distinguished citizen of a distant county was once chosen to fill an important office here, and near the close of his term was called upon by friends from his home county. After doing the polite and showing them the sights of the Capital, they dropped into a resort to refresh the inner man. One of the visitors, raising his glass, said to the State official: "Here is your good health; may you live in the hearts of the people, your happiness be eternal, and your entrance into heaven be free and unobstructed." "Just leave off the last part, please," said the official, "I had much rather remain in Frankfort."

Since such is the estimation in which you are held, it is not surprising that we have chosen this, the gem of the valley, as the most appropriate point for the Fifty-seventh Annual Conclave of this noble organization in Kentucky, and have come down upon you from the mountains, the foothills, the blue-grass, the pennyroyal and the purchase, a veritable army of occupation.

The Grand Commander's address is an epitome of a successful, but uneventful administration. He reports a state of perfect quiet, peace and prosperity. Reports the decease, in the preceding March, of the V. E. Deputy, Grand Commander, Sir Thomas Jefferson Smith, to whose worth and memory he paid high tribute. He also paid eloquent and appropriate honors to the knightly dead of equal and lesser note, who had passed to their reward during the year. He also reported the completion and dedication of the magnificent new Temple, at Louisville, on October the 20th. He issued a dispensation for a new Commandery at Carlisle, which started out under favorable conditions, and we wish it success. He granted dispensations to jump the ballot ahead on nearly one hundred candidates, which is doing a large and lucrative trade in this line. He recommended the appropriation of \$2,000 for the purchase of a hotel in San Francisco, which was done.

His portrait and that of the deceased, D. G. C. Smith, embellish the pamphlet.

The proceedings were devoid of special interest to outsiders. The finances are in a healthy state, cash balance being \$4,610.45; total membership, 2,791, a gain of we can't tell exactly how much, as there is no table, by the Grand Recorder, giving the statistics for the year.

The correspondence is the thirty-first offense, in regular succession of that Nestor of Mutuals, Past Grand Commander Charles R. Woodruff, and is like the other thirty, good. He omits the "Opening Chorus" feature, which gives the work a headless appearance. In old times, when two opposing armies faced each other, the etiquette of the War Regulations required that due notice should be given the enemy of the intention to attack, but our brother Charles opens on the Alabamians

without saying so much as "by your leave we will move on your works, next week, at ten o'clock!" This sort of warfare is not altogether to our liking and we hope Brother Charles will, hereafter, put in an "opening."

His attention to our doings at Biloxi, is very full and fraternal. He quotes freely from the address of Brother McKay, characterizing some of it as, "an able presentation of law, etc." He says, "Sir Knight Speed delivered a most eloquent and forcible tribute to the memory of Josiah H. Drummond, Past Grand Commander of Maine, etc.," which shows that Brother Woodruff knows a good thing when he sees it.

He excerpts a couple of chunks of wisdom, from our report, prefacing one of them with this remark: "On reaching Kentucky our dearly beloved brother, DeLap, 'bristles up' in the following overstrained and uncomplimentary fashion:" to which we desire to respond that our criticism of the sermon, in question, was made with a desire to stir up the animals and start a row than for any other purpose. What we said was said in the best of humor and with a heart full of love for our Kentucky brother and brethren, while the hospitality feature of it had no more application to Kentucky than it had to Mississippi, and our own city, and we are not apologizing for that part of it. Our position is impregnable, much more so than is Port Arthur, as Brother Charles will admit, if he will think a moment, or two.

He is a great admirer of the Grand Encampment, as what follows will show:

Completing our thirty-first report on Templar Correspondence to the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, we congratulate our Brother Knights upon a continuance of most favorable conditions of fraternity and prosperity, with an ever widening sphere of influence and usefulness now enjoyed by the great Order of the Temple in America.

The approaching Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, which will be held during the first week in September, at San Francisco, California, will undoubtedly result in a social success, perhaps unequalled in the history of similar events, and will have smooth sailing in a legislative way, as there are no disturbing questions or radical changes to challenge debate or provoke discord.

Locally we enjoy in Kentucky a full measure of Templar prosperity, and a delightful prevalence of good fellowship and harmony among the Commanders and the Sir Knights; but a deep shadow is cast over the Order by the recent loss by death of our greatly beloved Deputy Grand Commander THOMAS J. SMITH, than whom no member of the Grand Commandery was more deeply loved, or whose death could be more sincerely mourned.

May the blessings of heaven rest upon our brother, and all the noble men and lovely women that make up the population of the "Blue Grass State."

R. E. Sir Robert Rodes Burnam is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

LOUISIANA—1904.

The Forty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of New Orleans, February 5th. R. E. Henry B. Schreiber, Grand Commander, presiding; R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, Grand Recorder. A dozen Past Grand Commanders, with other Past Grand Officers and a good representation from the Subordinates, made a full attendance. There was, also, a long list of those useful (?) and ornamental appendages, Grand Representatives, present, one of them bearing the burden of looking after the interests of five Grand Jurisdictions!! We note, with regret, the absence of "the gentleman from Mississippi," but we trust that our interests will not suffer by his failure to attend.

The address of the Grand Commander, is very brief, covering less than five pages, and is devoid of general interest. He thinks the annual reunions productive of good, or that they should be, and suggests that the members, by their daily walk and correct lives, in their homes, can do much in the direction of accomplishing the objects and advancing the glory and well being of the Order. All of which is true. They can, if they will! Will they? We hope so. He granted but one dispensation allowing a Subordinate Commandery to "go off half cocked," when firing at a petition for the Orders, which was the correct thing to do. He is in favor of the Christmas Toast, in which we do not concur, as we never could see the sense in celebrating anything by taking a drink. Some wiseacre will jump in and refer to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as being a case in point, but these two things are as far apart, in every respect, as the antipodes, in fact they have absolutely nothing in common. Lots of people get drunk on Xmas Day, while our Lord says that no drunkard can enter Heaven. There can be no objection to a reunion of the Brethren on that Day, but we are compelled to protest against the wine and toast attachment, to the proceedings. Our good Brother Berry, the ancestor of this custom, believes in it, and he has just as much right to do so, as we have to think the other way. Others are equally honest in their views, and there we let the matter rest. He also suggests that if Louisiana is to be represented at San Francisco, it was time to buy an interest in the palace Hotel, in that Burg, and on this suggestion the Grand body appropriated \$500.

The proceedings were routine, short and of local interest. Cash balance in treasury, \$1,359.02; total membership, 518, a gain of 68. There is no report from the Correspondence Committee.

R. E. Sir George W. Booth is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder same as before.

MAINE—1904.

The Fifty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Portland, May 5th., with R. E. Sir Fred C. Thayer as Grand Commander, presiding; R. E. Sir Stephen Berry, Grand Recorder. Representatives from

all the twenty-one subordinates, many permanent members and visitors were present.

The Grand Commander's address is a voluminous but elegant paper, such as we would expect from its author whose face adorns the pamphlet. Much space is taken up with matter referring to the Templar dead, among whom we find the names of several Past Grand Commanders of that Jurisdiction. Peace to their ashes. We excerpt what follows from his opening:

The unbroken and impressive succession of night and day continues, suns rise and set, tides flow and ebb, seasons go and return in uninterrupted sequence, and in the fulness of time, we, the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Maine, meet again in solemn conclave to review the past, take counsel of the present, and consider that which is wise for the future welfare of Templary in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Gratefully remembering, with thankfulness, that the everlasting arms have been about us, that thereby we have been sustained during the year just ended, and that our lives have been in such keeping, I bid you all, representatives of the four thousand and more frates of this jurisdiction, a full and cordial welcome to this fifty-third annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maine.

With the passing years this annual gathering takes on more and more the semblance of a family re-union, where, about the old hearthstone, we may again clasp the hand of friend and brother, profoundly grateful for such a glorious privilege.

We should like to copy his "Conclusion," as it is very beautiful and instructive, but our time is limited as well as our space.

The proceedings were devoid of general interest. Treasury balance, \$3,949.67; total membership, 4,317, a gain of 246.

Correspondence Report is the work of Brother Berry, as usual and, as usual, is full and instructive. His attention to Mississippi at Greenville is full and fraternal. We would devote more space to Maine but for the fact that we are sick and unable.

R. E. Sir Ermon D. Eastman, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

M A R Y L A N D—1904.

A special conclave was held in the city of Baltimore, on Easter Monday, April 13, 1904, for the purpose of installing the officers elect of the subordinate commanderies, which being done, the body closed.

The Thirty-third Annual was also held in same city, on the Tuesday, November 24th, R. E. Sir William Jackson Cunningham, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir John Henry Miller, Grand Recorder. The attendance was quite full, including a long list of Past Grand Commanders.

The Grand Commander's address is a simple, well written business paper, in which we find but little of general interest. Appropriate men-

tion is made of the knightly dead of Templardom. Quite a number of his subordinates were pious on Easter and Ascension Days. We excerpt the following, which we commend to your careful attention, as being both timely and sensible:

It has been brought to my attention that there is a tendency of late among the Sir Knights of the Subordinate Commanderies to build up their Commanderies without a due regard as to the material they are accepting.

This state of affairs I deeply regret and deprecate. It cannot be too strongly impressed upon every Sir Knight of this jurisdiction that in accepting the application of any one for the Orders of Knighthood he should see that the candidate is possessed of natural abilities to enable him to comprehend its teachings; the cultivation to enable him to appreciate its beauties, and the moral perceptions necessary to enable him to live up to its precepts.

The earnest, active and cultivated men, men who have the fear of God in their hearts, are the ones whom we should admit within the sacred precincts of our Asylum.

Then, Sir Knights, do not be satisfied with mere negative goodness, but insist, in every instance, that the candidate shall possess these qualifications; for none but the worthy should find an entrance through our portals.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of special interest. Cash in treasury, \$1,453.41; total membership, 1441, a net gain of 87. We note, with pleasure, that they purchased an interest in the "Palace Hotel" at San Francisco, the prices being on the usual "hospitality" scale.

The correspondence is the fifth offense, in regular order, of Grand Recorder Miller. It carefully, pleasantly, sensibly and courteously considers the transactions of most of the Templar governing bodies, ours, at Biloxi, among the rest. It also contains a sketch of the great Baltimore fire, which is deeply interesting, but too long to copy. Brother Miller is courteous and fraternal, in his attention to our pamphlet at Biloxi, giving us two pages. He characterizes the eulogy of Brother Drummond, of Maine, by "our Fred," as beautiful, in which we concur and to which we add, that Fred has lucid intervals in which he sometimes says things that sound well. Of this distinguished end of the log, he says: "As usual he goes for frater Belden, of Arizona, calls him a dude, etc." He concurs in our view, that a Red X Knight is not liable for dues, and agrees with us that the Shrine is not going to kill anybody that ought to live, in which he is eminently correct. He copies Fred's foot note, in regard to the "intelligent compositor," and seems to feel relieved that that astute individual is still alive! He ought to be kilt, Brother Miller, but he has a nice family and we think of them and our hand is stayed. Our brother gets up a comprehensive and instructive report, but there is a paucity of original matter that we do not like.

R. E. Edward C. Regester is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, continued.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—1904.

These proceedings reached us after our report had gone to the printer, hence our attention to them will be brief. The Ninety-eighth Semi-Annual communication was held in the City of Providence, May 24th, with the Grand Commander in the East and a full attendance. The address is a business paper in which we find nothing of special interest. Proper and loving tribute is paid to the memory and merits of the magnanimous dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. The list is a long one and contains the names of some of the brightest and best of the Templar host. Peace to their ashes, consolation to their loved ones left behind, whose grief is, in no sense, measured by the distinguished, or humble position occupied, in our Order, by the loved and lost.

A good picture of the R. E., Freeman C. Hersey, Grand Commander, adorns the pamphlet. A strong face and fine head.

The Ninety-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Boston, October 27th, with the same officers and members, mostly, as at Providence. The attendance was very large.

The address is a typical Massachusetts paper, i. e., it is business from start to finish and couched in good English and its condiments. He issued a host of dispensations, but all for proper purposes, according to the usages and customs prevailing in that bailiwick. He devotes considerable time and space to the proceedings of the Grand Encampment, at San Francisco, a subject that is not very interesting to this scribe. From what he says we are inclined to admit that our Massachusetts brethren beat us, all hollow, in both display and attendance. We hope they had a good time. We note, with regret, however, that Boston Commandery kicked out of the traces and refused to parade, on account of some real, or fancied grievance. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$26,268.27; total membership, 14,440, a gain of 358, if we are not mistaken.

The correspondence report covers 112 pages and digests the proceedings of the entire family of Templar Grands, except Alabama and Wyoming, and its the finished ashlar of our friend and clerical brother Rugg, and, like the others from the same distinguished source, is able, full and interesting. His attention to Mississippi, at Greenville, is full, flattering and fraternal.

He says that "Fred" left out something that ought to have been in his report, but Fred denies the soft impeachment and refers him to page 50 of our proceedings, for the desired information. Fred is not likely to forget anything, unless it is to be brief, when he makes a speech, but as he generally talks sense, we are not disposed to grumble very much. He has some pleasant remarks in reference to our report, which are appreciated.

We excerpt a part of his finis:

It has been our purpose to convey information, touching some matters of Templar procedure in sister jurisdictions, to the members of Grand Commandery and the Sir Knights of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. To this end we have noted the legislation and movements of other Grand Commanderies, and have sought to gather light and knowledge from the whole Templar world. We have not hesitated to turn aside occasionally to discuss some underlying principle, or to consider a wholesome sentiment, brought to our attention in reading the proceedings, for, above all things, we hold it to be the privilege and duty of a Templar Correspondent in these days to maintain the high ideals of the Order and show the moral significance of its symbols and ceremonies.

The Templar Order is now being borne along on the high tide of prosperity. It is deservedly honored and influential. There is an open and inviting way before it. But it must stand by its essential precepts and principles. It must be charged with the Christian spirit and purpose, confident that its mission is to help men in some practical way, and so prove itself to be a power on the side of humanity and the right.

Modern Templary should illustrate that Chivalry of the Crusaders which was the mating of the Christian's spirit with the soldier's ardor. It should be a witness for the crucified and risen Christ in all the ways of true service for man. Applied Templary means the same as applied Christianity—doing good in the Master's name. Just here is that true chivalry of heart and life, prompting a benign service for truth's sake, for humanity's sake, and for love's sake; and just here, if your Correspondent does not mistake, is to be found the strength and the inspiration of Templary in this twentieth century.

We beg to suggest to our brother, that there are but few characteristics of the original Templars that we would care to imitate. He thinks they were chivalrous, but we are of the opinion that whatever of good there was in them, had for a basis the matter of revenue, just as some people are patriots for revenue only. It is barely possible that we are mistaken, but as that is so unusual with us, that we are inclined to doubt it. We are sorry to be unable to give our Bay State and Little Rhody brethren a more extended review, but we can't help it.

R. E. Dana J. Flanders is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as of yore.

MINNESOTA—1904.

The Thirty-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of St. Paul, April 27th. Present: R. E. Sir Samuel S. Kilvington, Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Thomas Montgomery, Grand Recorder.

The station of V. E. Sir Hermon L. Luther, late Grand Captain General, was vacant, he having passed to his reward, during the year. The attendance was large, including a long list of Past Grands, Past Commanders and Grand Representatives and delegates from 27 Subordinate Commanderies, out of 29.

The Grand Commander's address is an exceptionally good one. We clip from his opening:

It seems fitting as a preliminary to this report, that I offer some explanation why, in many respects, it is so essentially different from those of other Grand Commanders. Those of you who were present at our last Annual Conclave will remember these words of my predecessor, remarkable for their comprehensiveness:—

"It has taken this entire year to prepare for and collect this information and now within a few hours we will elect a new Grand Commander, and, if the same system is carried on as has been for many years past, he will immediately commence to collect the same information again, and by the time he has it well in hand and understands the situation, his term of office will be up and he will retire."

As I listened to these words, and realized their truth and force, I determined that my own official life should not be merely a perfunctory routine, or devoid of practical results; hence during the past Templar year, I have traveled 12,700 miles, have visited personally every Commandery in the state, and have given almost my undivided attention, including that of my office help, month in and month out, for the interests of the Order that it might profit by the seven years of active experience in this work, which have been mine; and, while I have thus conscientiously endeavored to perform my duty, feeling that I lack many requirements and am deficient in many ways in the essential qualities that are necessary for so great a trust, I shall not be true to my own ideas of the obligations which I have assumed, were I to proceed altogether in this report along the lines of my predecessors. Hence you will find here no flights of fancy, no effort at rhetorical effect, but, I believe, a plain statement of facts as I encountered them, the good commended, the evils reprehended, and all in a spirit of loving kindness and purely unselfish desire for the best interests of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Eloquent and loving tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the Templar dead, coupled with words of sympathy and affection for the bereaved, all of which is very proper and right. He made several decisions, but none of outside interest. He granted several permits to ballot on the jump, which was all right. The address covers 62 pages and refers to everything conceivable, having any connection with the Order local and universal, which reminds us of a speech made at the presentation of a stand of colors, to a regiment of volunteers, during the "late unpleasantness." The orator commenced with a reference to the creation, the fall of Adam and the expulsion of our progenitors from the Garden of Eden, touched lightly on the wickedness of the antediluvian world, Noah's celebrated voyage and the building of the tower of Babel, the confusion of tongues and the attention that followed that event. From there he jumped to the administration of Solomon and the erection of the first Temple; referred in touching terms to the siege of Jerusalem, by Titus and the destruction of the Temple, as well as the sufferings of the besieged; paid proper tribute to Josephus, as a historian; noted the rise and fall of the Roman Empire and the causes that led to the latter; gave a detailed account of the War of the Roses, in England; the discovery of America, by Columbus; the war of the Revolution, the adoption of the Constitution, which he read, in full; gave a history of the birth and growth of the different political parties that have "held the boards" since the organization of our government; read all the

platforms of the different parties, the letters of acceptance of the different candidates for the presidency, from Washington to Lincoln, read Washington's Farewell Address, explained the forty-seventh problem of Euclid and how to "Square the Circle," and wound up by saying: "To me has been assigned the pleasing duty of presenting this here flag to this gallant regiment," etc. At the conclusion of the address starvation had made such ravages in the regiment that it had to be sent to the hospital, in a body!

We never could abide long speeches, long sermons or long waits between acts, but as we did not have to hear this one, we are not complaining of Brother Kilvington's address. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. A strongly intellectual face.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$2,451.39. Total membership, 3,104, a gain of 108.

Correspondence report is the fifteenth literary child of Grand Recorder Thos. Montgomery, covers 72 pages and considers the transactions of most of the Templar family of Grands, Mississippi, at Greenville, among the rest.

Brother Montgomery's attention to us is quite full and very fraternal. He says: "We note with disapproval the use of the address: 'To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery.'" There is no provision in law or usage for using the words, "the Right Eminent" in this connection. We also disapprove of the form of title used in referring to the Grand Commander, viz.: "The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander." It should be simply "the Grand Commander," or, if he is personally addressed, "Right Eminent Grand Commander." In this connection we might criticise the use in one or two other jurisdictions of calling the Grand Commander simply "Right Eminent," making a noun of the qualifying title. "Past Eminent Commander" is also incorrect. It should be simply, "Past Commander." See Title 50, Code of Statutes Grand Encampment.

While this is a matter of minor importance, we are disposed to take issue with our Brother Thomas and deny the correctness of his assertion that this bailiwick has fallen off the Xmas tree in the matter at issue. Brother Montgomery has a perfect right to "disapprove" things as much as he pleases, but when he says that there is no provision in law or usage for our style, he is wrong. We have been on deck and reading these pamphlets for a quarter of a century and our observation is that the style objected to has become the law, because, if for no other reason, it has been sanctioned by long usage. The style of address varies in different countries and in different bodies, but the form "The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander" to which he primarily objects, and kindred titles in other bodies, seems to "hold the age" in all Masonic bodies, as well as in the courts of the country, the rulers of nations, governors of states, the executive officers of municipalities and counties, i. e., the chief executive. But enough of this, although we must remind Brother

Montgomery that, like ourself, Fred Speed very seldom makes a mistake of any sort, and as he has adopted the style to which Brother Montgomery objects, it will have to go at that.

Brother Thomas shows his good judgment by copying liberally from our report, for which we are not ungrateful.

R. E. Geo. W. Buck, is Grand Commander; E. Sir Edward M. VanCleve, Grand Recorder and Correspondent.

Appendix.—We wonder what the reason for the retirement of Brother Montgomery, after fifteen years of faithful and efficient service, can be? If he asked for a discharge for reasons of his own, it is all right; if he is set aside to put in some young and aspiring duck, it is all wrong. Rotation in the other offices is all right, but rotating an experienced and faithful Grand Recorder out of office, is an evidence of mental decay not pleasant to contemplate. What is the matter? I pause for a reply.

DE LAP.

MISSOURI—1904.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of St. Louis, in the Assembly Hall of the Grand View Fraternal Hotel at World's Fair Grounds, of the Louisiana Purchase Centennial Exposition, April 26th, R. E. Sir Emanuel F. Hartzell, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Wm. H. Mayo, Grand Recorder. As might be expected, the attendance was very large. We are gratified by the absence of "welcoming speeches" and dissertations on "hospitality."

The Address is a typical Missouri paper, well written, containing a complete resume of a successful administration. We excerpt from his opening, "Allocution" he calls it: Third Annual Conclave of our Grand Commandery.

We have assembled to-day on the World's Fair Grounds in the Temple of Fraternity, being one of the magnificent buildings of the World's Fair which will be opened April 30, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase, out of which the great state of Missouri was carved. The Louisiana Purchase was one of the noted events in American History, one of the many expansions of our country since the formation of the thirteen original colonies, which are to-day represented on the flag of our country in its thirteen stripes of alternate white and red, typical of the peace and struggles of those early days.

The Temple of Fraternity was erected by the united efforts of American Fraternities who believe in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, as a place where the members of each society could meet and enjoy themselves in their own peculiar way during the World's Fair. As Templarism represents the very highest and best there is in Fraternity, how fitting it is that we as Knights of the Temple should be the first to hold our Annual Conclave in this beautiful Temple, associated with great achievements, pleasant memories and historical surroundings.

Eloquent and appropriate tribute is paid to the memory and worth of the knightly dead of the world. The death roll in that jurisdiction, is large, including three Past Grand Commanders and fourteen Past Commanders. "The young may die, the old must die, the wisest knoweth not how soon."

He issued the usual allowance of dispensations and refused to grant quite a number, some of them innocent in themselves and calculated to do no harm to any one. He made several unimportant decisions, wrote four hundred letters in reply to queries from the rank and file, and remarks: "I was simply amazed at the lack of Templar knowledge and information the Sir Knights displayed in their letters." We do not wonder at it, at all. He evidently assumes that every Templar carries around a copy of the statutes, rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery, as well as those of the Grand Encampment, which is unreasonable. The average Templar, privates and officers, knows no more about Templar Jurisprudence than the devil does about experimental religion and what's worse they never will if they search for it in that incomprehensible volume yclept the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment. He arrested the charter of one Commandery, because it was in a languishing condition, doing no good for itself and reflecting no credit upon the Order. The reasons were sufficient and the action is approved! He issued a dispensation for a new Commandery, at Malden, which started out under favorable conditions. He reported the death of two, of the three members, of the Triennial Committee, and the vacancies were filled by the Grand Commandery. He reported that twenty-three per cent. of the membership had been to church on Templar holy days which is a larger percentage than is shown elsewhere. He has a word of commendation for their noble charity, The Masonic Home, which is the brightest jewel in the crown of the Masons and Templars of Missouri. His portrait adorns the title page of the pamphlet. He is right handsome and is not unconcious himself of that fact.

The proceedings, while voluminous, are devoid of general interest. The Grand Treasury contained a cash balance of \$6,537.32. Total membership, 5,197, a gain of 154. We copy the Superintendent's Report of the Home, which is good reading:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—I have the honor to submit to you herewith my semi-annual report covering the period from September 1, 1903, to March 31, 1904.

We had in the Home, at the time of my last annual report, seventy (70) children, since which time twelve (12) have been admitted.

Four (4) having reached the age limit, were discharged, leaving in the Home at this date a total of seventy-eight (78) children—forty-three (43) girls and thirty-five (35) boys. Of these, two (2) girls and four (4) boys are employed, two (2) girls are in the business college, three (3) girls in high school, and the remainder, with the exception of five (5) little tots, are in attendance upon the Dozier grammar school. The health of the children has been remarkably good. Only one serious case of sickness, and from that the little girl made a nice recovery. Our

children are hearty, healthy and happy. At the close of last term of school all, with one single exception, were promoted to a higher grade.

Also, at last report, we had sixty-five (65) old people; since then ten (10) have been admitted; four (4) have died, two of these while out on leave of absence visiting among their relations, so that in reality we have had but two (2) deaths in the Home; one (1) was discharged during the same period, leaving in the Home at this date seventy (70) old people. In this department of the work also the health has been remarkably good with so many aged people. With all of them more or less afflicted, several of them liable to go at any moment from the effect of age or chronic ailments, we had, of course, many cases of slight illness, but with the exception of the two fatal cases, no serious sickness.

We are greatly indebted to our faithful and efficient physicians, Drs. Robinson and Leggatt, who were ever ready to come on call, and never failed to render such attention as the nature of the case required.

While criticisms upon the management have not been lacking, they have been offset by many words of approval and by the consciousness of having done what we believe to be our duty. We are grateful to the Board of Directors for their hearty co-operation and support, and to our Heavenly Father for His unfailing mercy and grace.

The correspondence report, which covers 128 pages, reviews nearly all the Templar Grands, and is the Twenty-seventh in regular succession from the pencil, paste and brain of Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commander, W. H. Mayo. Like the other twenty-six, it is a good report, such an one as we have a right to expect from its author. Brother Mayo devotes nearly five pages to our doings at Biloxi; quotes copiously from Brother McKay's address, which he styles "very entertaining," says that Fred is the ladies' man of this jurisdiction; quotes Fred's suggestion in regard to the ladies and the Xmas libation, and remarks: "In issuing his notice for the observance of the Christmas Greeting to the Most Eminent Grand Master, the Grand Recorder added the following, which shows that our venerable friend is the ladies' man of the Grand Commandery." Fred is not very venerable, but he is a holy terror along the lines of wind, urbanity, general knowledge and several other things that we do not now recall. Our Brother's attention to our report is very full, courteous and pleasant, and we appreciate the compliment. Altho' he proposed to put in his usual excellent and comprehensive statistical tables, we fail to find them, which we regret, as we had intended to appropriate them, as usual.

We copy a part of his conclusion:

We once attended a Lodge meeting in a large city when the Grand Master was to pay an official visit. The lodge-room was crowded, an officious wizen-faced, dyspeptical ignoramus was the Marshal. He proceeded to the ante-room, marshalled into line several Past Masters, who had served many years ago as District Deputy Grand Masters and Lecturers, Past Grand Masters, and the Grand Master, all in one line, marched into the Lodge and introduced them as Right Worshipful Brother Stonepicker, Past District Deputy Grand Master; Most Worshipful Brother Jamestown, Past Grand Master, and Most Worshipful Brother William Smith, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of ——. Then

the aforesaid Marshal forthwith pranced around in front of the line and ordered the Lodge "together on the Grand Honors," and proceeded to bury them by raising both hands above the head, which, if it means anything, is: "We commend his spirit to God, who gave it." Then crossed the forearms over the breast, which means if anything, "we cherish his memory here," and, letting both arms straighten out downwardly in front of the body, palms of the hands to the front, eyes cast downward, which means, if anything, "we consign his body to the grave." The next time that Grand Master visited in that city he slipped in by a side door *incognito*, and was heard to say to a few knowing friends that he was not yet quite ready to be buried.

We visited another large city in another state about the same time, and to our great pleasure met the Grand Master of Masons of that state, and was urgently requested to join him and his party that evening in an official visit to a small and young Lodge in one of the suburbs. We cheerfully accepted. When the time came all the Brethren were invited into the Lodge and properly introduced, and took seats, except the Grand Master, who was conducted into the Lodge alone and introduced as Brother George Miller Monroe, Grand Master of Masons of the state of ——. The Marshal then said, "Together, Brethren, on the signs," when the salutation signs of each of the three degrees were given, and the Grand Master escorted to the East. Which of these two introductions was correct and Masonic? Is it possible that there can be any difference of opinion among *men and Masons* on this subject?

The Grand Encampment, K. T., of the United States of America, has legislated against the use of the word "Sir" alone before any name, and against the use of the word "Eminent" before the office of Commander in print. It is a display of ignorance and todysm which is unpardonable among well-informed or thinking Masons to do otherwise.

Present Officers outrank Past of any grade. When a Master of a Lodge has passed out of the chair or office he is no longer entitled to the title, "Worshipful," but to a higher and better appellation, that of "Past Master." It is far better to say "Brother Past Master Smith" than "Worshipful Brother Smith." The first is correct, as used in many states; the latter is wrong and meaningless, or, rather, misleading.

When the Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar has served his term of office and his successor elected and installed he becomes a "Past Commander," to speak of, or address such a one as "Eminent Sir" is the worst kind of a blunder.

We have drawn a few pen pictures which we believe many of our readers will readily recognize in their respective communities. We court the fullest investigation, discussion and elucidation of these subjects. If more and stronger statements and proofs are wanted, they can be had in an abundance. Turn on the search lights! Let us have TRUTH and a pure Freemasonry on American lines, for America, where a brother is put into office, advanced and receives honors on his merits and by the voice of his Companions.

Before condemning this writer for stirring up a hornet's nest, please consult your best Lexicographers, Principals of High Schools, Professors of Colleges and Grammarians, and think seriously over the two subjects here written about; then we would like very much to hear from our readers fully and frankly. We believe that, as these errors and mistakes exist in many of our states, they are burning shames and great evils. We have written thus caustically and in a Pickwician sense in order to provoke discussion and give some of our good Masons a chance to say something or have something to write about.

R. E. William A. Hall is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MONTANA—1903.

The Sixteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Helena, September 14th, R. E. Sir Edwin B. Brewster, Grand Commander presiding; R. E. Sir Edward D. Neill, Grand Recorder. The attendance was good and the interest lively. The personnel included ten Past Grand Commanders, the representatives of ten Subordinate Commanderies and representatives of sixteen Grand Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is quite devoid of general interest. He made but one decision and that unimportant; granted but few dispensations; made quite a number of visitations and that is about the whole of it. We excerpt the following for the purpose of remarking that if any of those "many hostilities" come fooling 'round here, they will wish they had stayed away!

I am pleased to report that the membership within our jurisdiction has increased, and that harmony and peace prevail. Could we but truly say, as was the prayer of my worthy predecessor, that at the close of this year peace reigneth supreme over the whole world; unfortunately, it does not, yet we can but hope and pray that ere long such will be the case. Many hostilities have occurred, much uneasiness is felt in some countries, yet, we as Templars, put our trust in Him, who knows all things, and pray for a speedy settlement of all differences between nations and men.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, \$1,408.58, in the General and \$440.28 in the Triennial Fund, which shows that they are all right financially. Total membership, 542, a gain of forty-five.

The Correspondence is the literary child of our good old friend, Cornelius who is still a trifle short on charity for the unspeakable Turk, and who is not in a very friendly mood toward the Russians, on account of their hostility to the children of Abraham. We clip a part of his opening chorus:

The shortening days and increased chilliness of the atmosphere remind us of the approach of September days and with them of another Conclave of our Grand Commandery, when our Fraters at home will look for news from those abroad with whom they like to keep in line.

We spent June and July in the east, where the leading newspapers publish hourly editions and trolley cars run on every street in the cities and connect town and country with a network like a spider's web. Though nominally summer and vacation time, it was so cold and rainy much of the time that the summer hotels and sea-beach resorts were not thronged and people were hesitating about summer clothes and grumbling that there was no hot weather to complain of. We found Masonry laid aside for a rest. Our anticipations for clam-bakes were not realized. But somewhere in our 7,000 miles of travel we got rid of some of our rheumatism and felt well paid for the trip.

We are midway between two Grand Encampments when interest reaches its lowest ebb and campaign plans for the Pacific coast are in embryo. The Russians are butchering the Jews and harrying the Finns,

while the "beastly Turk" is at his customary amusement of killing Christians, stopping occasionally to enquire of the so-called Christian nations what they are going to do about it.

We thank God we are better and ready for another campaign in the cause of Christian Knighthood, realizing that there never was more need of moral courage and true chivalry than to-day.

For an old man, Cornelius is singularly sanguinary and bloodthirsty, which we regret. If he were younger we should tremble for the safety of the Turks, as well as some others.

Mississippi, at Biloxi gets less than two pages but it is courteous and kind. We clip the following with fear and trembling. "Hy" is quite vain now, and we fear that this will make him worse. We suggest to Cornelius that the "benevolence" that beams, etc., together with the smile that is "so childlike and bland," is, especially the latter, very largely of a political character. Not that "Hy" is not as benevolent as any of us, because he is, but you can't tell much about what a politician is, in reality, by an examination of his face!

The volume of proceedings is neat and interesting in contents, though not extravagantly large. It contains the handsome picture of Sir Knight R. H. Henry, of Jackson, Grand Commander elect. Benevolence fairly oozes from his ample face. Farther on is a picture of Past Grand Commander Savery of Tupelo, who served in 1874 and is the oldest but two in that honored line.

R. E. Sir Richard H. Wearing, Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

NEBRASKA — 1904.

The Thirty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Omaha, April 14th; R. E. Fred W. Vaughan, Grand Commander, presiding; R. E. Sir Francis E. White, Grand Recorder. Twenty-two out of twenty-five chartered Commanderies were represented, and there were many Past Grand Commanders and visiting Knights in attendance. We take satisfaction in again noting the fact that there were no welcoming speeches, assuring the brethren that the usual "hospitality," at from three to ten dollars a day was in evidence.

The Grand Commander's address is a well written, comprehensive resume of an uneventful, but successful administration. He expresses a high appreciation of the honor conferred upon him, in electing him to the office of Grand Commander, and assures them that he is not ungrateful, but the contrary. He pays proper tribute to the memory and worth of the magnanimous dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. He suggests the adoption of "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the proper thing for the "Official Hymn" of the Grand Encampment and the Order of the Temple, in which we concur, as it will do as well as another. He

calls attention to the fact that quite a number of the Templars of Nebraska did not receive the Order of Malta, either in short or long form, when dubbed, and stated that he had had the work completed, in a number of instances, and the wires laid for the balance, which is refreshing. We confess our inability to understand why Commanderies can make postulants pay for the Order of Malta, dub them Knights of Malta, and then not give them the degree, in any shape. No man is a Templar and not a Knight of Malta, and no one is a Knight of Malta until the Order has been conferred upon, or communicated to him, and it is time this sort of half way business was stopped. He also stated that he had signed the contract for the "Occidental" hotel at San Francisco, and the Triennial Committee reported that they had bought it at a bargain, which is probably true, as things go.

They have a Masonic Home in Nebraska, in which the Grand Commandery has an interest of \$1,000 cash and any amount of other sorts of interest. It is a modest affair, but is a beginning of what will eventually redound to the glory of the Order and Masonry in that jurisdiction. If our brethren of the Grand Lodge would make up their minds to start in a modest way, our own Home might be started much sooner than it is likely to be. It is always difficult, if not impossible, to bore a two-inch augur hole with a gimlet. We have in mind a Sky Pilot, who tried to do this, but it soured on him! He visited eighteen of his subordinates during the year, which was better than most Grand Commanders do. He made but two decisions, and neither of them of importance. He issued the regular allowance of dispensations and along the same old lines. Also one for a new Commandery at Alliance. He reports the Order in excellent shape and closes with a little deserved and proper taffy to Grand Recorder White. His pliz adorns the pamphlet. A strong, good face and a "long head."

Proceedings were routine and of local interest. Cash balance in treasury \$3,222.94. \$800 appropriated for expense of blow-out at San Francisco. Total membership, 1962, a net gain of 141, which is right peart.

The correspondence is the fifth in regular succession from the brain, scissors, pencil and paste of our good brother, Past Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, Francis E. White, and is among the best that there is. He carefully digests the doings of nearly all the family of Templar Grands, culling all that is of general interest, for the benefit of his readers, occasionally throwing in some spice in the shape of humor, criticism and approval, thus making his report entertaining as well as instructive. Brother White's attention to our doings at Greenville is very full and fraternal. He quotes from Brother Henry's address and notes the principal acts and deliverances of the body on that occasion. Of our report he says:

The report on foreign correspondence is by the original and only Enoch George DeLap, P. G. C., who devotes one hundred and one pages

to the consideration of other Grand Commanderies. It is not quite as highly flavored as some of his former ones, and this he accounts for on the theory that there is nothing of an exciting character in any of the proceedings he has received. However, if he leaves out the "spice" this time, we can look for a double portion in his next, as we feel sure the stock is ample and he will have to dispose of it.

Further along we find these:

We are glad to note that our good brother is wielding his pen in the crusade against such words as "pilgrimage" when used in connection with visits to other jurisdictions, also "templarism," "invade," etc. He is looking for the lunatic who coined the word "templarism," and if he finds him we hope the word will die with him. He endorses Frater Hedges' crusade against the Unspeakable Turk, but does not show any disposition to "jine" the expedition.

And still further along, this:

We are just going to throw him a bouquet as large as a cart wheel, but as we started out with a determination to leave them out of this review entirely, we reluctantly omit it. Perhaps he will accept the following in place of it. Under South Dakota, after making several impossible conditions, he is willing to forgive Frater Belden, and offers to compromise the case by kissing all the good looking girls in Oregon. We can see no good reason why the good looking girls of Oregon should be so severely punished because of the trouble between two Past Grand Commanders of Arizona and Mississippi, and venture the guess that if the compromise is made, every good looking girl in Oregon will leave the state.

The above is all right, except the closing sentence. If the couple was made up of Brothers White and Belden, then the hegira of good looking maids and dames from Oregon, would not be unlikely, but if this scribe were alone in the deal, instead of the ladies leaving Oregon, there would be a large volume of immigration into that bailiwick, of the fair sex.

We copy his conclusion:

In beginning our review we said something about there being nothing new or of general interest in the Order, and yet we find that it has taken about one hundred pages to present what we considered necessary. Some of our remarks have necessarily been repeated, as we have tried to treat each subject under the Grand Jurisdiction where it was presented, knowing that each reviewer would read what we wrote about his jurisdiction; but might overlook it if presented under another.

Notwithstanding the trouble between Russia and Japan, and the numerous wars in other foreign countries, we are still of the opinion that the general condition of things throughout the world continues to improve. The millennium is not yet here, and probably will never come, and until it does come it is well for each of us to make the best of the situation, applying the principles of Templar Masonry to our own lives, throwing our influence always on the side of right, and striving to do something for others while we have the opportunity, leaving the results to "Him, who doeth all things well," ever keeping in mind the frailty of human nature, and before passing judgment upon others asking if

under all the circumstances, we would have done so well. Many a brother has struggled against adverse conditions, and yielded to temptation only after a contest wherein the battle was far from equal. Half the heartaches in the world come from condemnation, when if all the facts were known commendation would have been freely given. The gentle reproof, the brotherly admonition, has done more to improve the conduct of the erring than all that discipline or censure has ever done.

R. E. Sir William J. Turner is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent continued.

NEW JERSEY—1904.

The Forty-sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Trenton, May 10th; Present, R. E. Sir Daniel O. Adams, Grand Commander; Sir Thomas H. R. Redway, Acting Grand Recorder. The attendance was full, only Nos. 2 and 8 being absent from roll call.

The address of the Grand Commander is a business paper, in which the events of a successful and creditable administration are set forth. Appropriate tribute is paid to the Knightly dead, and sympathetic reference is made to those members of the Grand Body who were prevented, by illness, from being present at the Conclave. As we have had occasion to remark, on several occasions, it is always the best way, where you love and appreciate your brother, friend and neighbor, to let him know the fact before he dies, as it will do him no good after that sad event takes place. They do a big business in "Waivers of Jurisdiction over Candidates" in that bailiwick, as a tabulated statement of these courtesies, included in the address, clearly indicate, eight being asked, seven granted and one refused. New Jersey asked for three, all of which were granted. He calls the coming trip to San Francisco, a "pilgrimage," which makes us tired. His portrait adorns the pamphlet, as he is right good looking.

The business was routine and local. The Order is in good shape and in prosperous condition. The treasury contains a balance on the right side, of \$2,348.03. Total membership, 2,255, a gain of 123.

The correspondence is the finished production of the Apostle "Peter" McGill, and is an eloquent paper. The report covers 108 pages and considers the transactions of 43 Templar legislative bodies, Mississippi included. Our brother is of those who have opinions and the courage of them. What he dislikes, he condemns, but always in courteous terms. Of Brother Belden's famous decision in regard to a Commandery receiving the petition of a Most Excellent Master, who hoped, if the breeching did not break, to become a Royal Arch Mason, he says: "It is bad enough to find Frater Belden making such a mistake, but to be obliged to read four pages of distorted argument in his effort to establish the correctness of his theory, is terrible. The Committee on Jurisprudence disapproved of the decision, and recommended that the Sir Knight in question, be healed. This the Grand Commandery endorsed." Replying to

this remark of Brother Morford, the Arizona Correspondent, that "All of which appears to us to be a sort of generous sophistry which, while it touches some truths pursued to the ultimate is not sound Masonry; the mortar is bad." Brother Peter says:

That depends on what standpoint you occupy in looking at it. If the object of Masonry is to fasten its members by chains of silver, requiring them to submit quietly to the flattering progress or "get out," we are wrong; if the object, on the other hand, is, as our lectures say, "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man"—if the desire is to bind them into one common union; if the intention is to incite them to charity and good works, if we are sincere in laying well the foundation of the second temple, and building thereon the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens"; if we wish to dispense charity and hospitality, to heal the sick and bind up the wounds of the afflicted, then *our* "mortar" is good. The Temple of Masonry built on the first lines is a sham; one built on ours is one that will stand when silver fetters have rusted and crumbled to dust. The first is building for a brief generation; ours, for all time. Our Masonry is built with the mortar that will hold until the earth shall melt with fervent heat, the heavens be rolled up like a scroll, for its materials are, first, the Commandments of Christ, "Thou shalt love the Lord with all thy heart and all thy soul and all thy mind," and the second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," and second, "Do unto others as you would they should do unto you." The Commandments and the Golden Rule; what better materials could you have, Brother Morford?

Brother Morford seems to be in as bad a fix, as to the tenableness of his position, as was Brother Belden when he fell over the fence. Brothers Belden and Morford will now retire to the back seats, and sit down.

Mississippi at Biloxi, gets two and a half pages of polite and fraternal attention in this report. He summarizes the business transacted and then has what follows to say to your "distinguished" committee:

The proceedings of forty-three Grand Jurisdictions are reviewed. He quotes full, comments freely, reprints the taps he receives, and gives slaps in return, but usually in kindly style.

He gives New Jersey two and a half pages, most of which is devoted to the Correspondence Report, from which he excerpts liberally. He backs us up in our opinion that Belden of Arizona is heterodox in his Scriptural views and interpretations; but goes still further and says that we are a little off in our saying that the Lord promised to build His church on Peter. We very much dislike to be compelled to substantiate our position by reference, and equally dislike to tell our friend DeLap he is wrong, but it is necessary. If George will turn to Matthew 16, 13 to 19, inclusive, he will find the entire record of the incident. Simon's confession of faith is verse 16, and the Master's answer, "And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon *this rock will I build my church.*" What rock? Not Peter himself, even though it might be a very pretty play on words, but on the implicit confidence and faith as exemplified in the impulsive Peter, more than in any other of the disciples. Love, faith, confidence, abode in all save the apostate, but greatest of all in Peter. We do not hold to the Romanist belief in the omnipotence of St. Peter by any means, and we would endorse DeLap's view that the Christ was

and is the Rock of Salvation "upon which the church of God rests to-day," but George must not say we are "off" in our quotation.

We beg to suggest to our brother Peter, that we did not question the correctness of his quotation, at all, except of the passage quoted. He says, in the above, "What Rock? Not Peter himself, even though it might be a very pretty play on words, but on the implicit confidence and faith as exemplified in the impulsive Peter, more than in any other of the disciples." According to our modern Peter the qualities and character of the ancient Peter is what the Master proved as a foundation for His Church, and this is what we deny; in toto. Peter's declaration, in response to the query of our Lord, "But whom say ye that I am," "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," is the "Rock" upon which the superstructure of the church militant rest to-day, not on the personal peculiarities of Peter, or any one else, and we find it hard to believe that our Peter does not know and believe this fact. If he does, there is no conflict between his belief and ours, and, per consequence, no chance for a scrimmage. Assuming that he does, we dismiss the subject, for the present.

You are wrong again Peter, in supposing that we received that "appendix" letter; it never came, so you had best write another.

We copy a part of his conclusion:

There are no subjects of disagreement to require discussion; occasionally some Grand Commander makes a mistake in his decision, but he is "sat down upon" so promptly by his particular Committee on Jurisprudence, and picked up again so generally by the reviewers of the different Jurisdictions, that a reading man, likely of promotion to Grand Commandery honors, is unlikely to err in like manner, or, in fact, to err at all in his decisions. The very comprehensive Code of Statutes of the Grand Encampment covers almost every conceivable contingency that can arise, and a careful perusal of these will enlighten on every subject.

Many of the older reviewers are dropping out from death, necessity or inclination. Their withdrawals are greatly felt, as their experience and wisdom are of great benefit, yet their places are filled by men of learning, ability and culture, possessed of so much interest in their work as to make up for the loss sustained.

New personalities are often introduced and the Templar world in general is benefited. And so matters will ever be. It is but a question of time when we shall in all probability hand over our pleasant duty to others for its discharge. When that time comes, we hope for a commendatory verdict from both co-workers and readers.

R. E. Sir John J. Henry, is Grand Commander; Sir Thomas H. R. Redway, Grand Recorder; R. E. Sir Peter McGill, Correspondent.

NEW MEXICO—1903.

The Third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Albuquerque, October 22d.; R. E. Sir C. N. Blackwell, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir A. A. Keene, Grand Recorder. Three of the Grand Officers were absent,

all the Subordinate Commanderies, eight, were represented. They do not seem to indulge in the luxury of Grand Representatives, which shows that they are, somewhat, provincial.

The Grand Commander's address is one of the shortest on record and contains absolutely nothing of outside interest. Fortunately he had sense enough to quit when he got through, an example we commend to sundry and divers Sky Pilots, who do not seem to know so much.

The proceedings were simple and confined to local affairs, entirely. There is no report on correspondence.

R. E. Sir Alex. Stevens, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

NEW YORK — 1904.

The Ninety-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of Saratoga, October 4th, with R. E. Sir Charles D. Bingham, Grand Commander, presiding, with Sir Arthur McArthur, Grand Recorder. The attendance was large, many distinguished Templars from abroad being present, together with a multitude of Past Grand Commanders and Grand Representatives.

The Grand Commander's address is a full, complete and detailed account of a busy as well as creditable administration. We excerpt what follows from his opening:

Another year, with its joys and sorrows, its pains and pleasures, its promises and fulfillments has passed, and we are permitted with grateful hearts to meet again in Annual Conclave. And while we render to the Giver of All Good our reverent gratitude for the manifold blessings with which He has surrounded our lives, and for the happy privilege which we now enjoy of renewing and continuing our acquaintance, and cementing our friendship, let us pledge ourselves to greater effort and enhanced zeal, in exemplifying in our own lives the glorious principles of the Christian belief, upon which our beloved Order rests.

The criticism has sometimes been made by well-meaning people upon the institution of Knights Templar that it takes the place of the Church, which ought to enjoy the fealty and support of every Christian, and, in that sense, it is a substitute for the Church; but while such people may be well-meaning, they are certainly not well-informed. I believe that the Order of Knights Templar is a most efficient aid to the Church, and that the Church and the Order should go hand in hand. Surely the precious teachings of the Christian belief can never be spread through too many channels, and we, who are familiar with the manner in which the beautiful tenets of that faith are exemplified in the ceremonies of our Order know that to the true man there can be nothing more impressive or lasting, all of which is true and good:

Eloquent and merited tribute is paid to the memory of the Knightly dead, both of his own and other jurisdictions. The list is a long one, but we are glad to note the absence of Mississippi from the roll. He made quite a batch of decisions, all of them correct but none of general inter-

est. His dispensations were, also numerous, but all for legitimate purposes. The address as a whole comes up to the New York standard. A portrait of its author adorns the pamphlet. Strong, stern, but kindly, face. There is, also, a picture of P. G. Commander S. V. McDowell, who passed to his reward during the year. A good man and true.

The proceedings, while voluminous, are mostly routine and devoid of special interest. The treasury, as might be expected, is in a healthy state, containing a balance to the good of \$13,315.22; total membership, 5,808, right behind Pennsylvania. Dollars to doughnuts that New York passes the Key Stone brethren in three years from this date!

The correspondence is the perfect ashlar of our distinguished Brother Anthony, and like the ones that have preceded it, from the same source, is full, interesting and complete. Forty-four Grand Jurisdictions are reviewed in 139 pages, among them our doings at Greenville. Any seeker after Templar knowledge can find a large deposit of the article in this report, from which to draw. Brother Anthony's attention to Mississippi is full and fraternal. He quotes freely from our report, has a pleasant word for the sparring between "our Fred" and this writer, quotes Fred's unseemly reply to some of our just criticisms of him. He also quotes our remarks anent the cork leg incident and remarks: "We are justified in the presumption that our frater is on the fence!!" This is most remarkable i.e. the "presumption," as it is utterly baseless, of which our brother can satisfy himself by reading our review of Grand Commander Delavan's decisions to which we refer. If we have ever been on the fence, on any subject, we have forgotten it. On the contrary, we would not know a fence of this sort should we see one!! Our opinions may be wrong, but we always have the courage to express them in plain English, hence our wonder that Brother Anthony should presume that we are on the fence. We copy one of his statistical tables, with thanks:

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR STATISTICS.

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GRAND COMMANDEERY.	Comman- daries.	Members.	Created.	Affiliated.	Restored.	Died.	Dimitted.	Dropped, and Non payment of Dues.	Expelled.	Net Gain.	Net Loss.
Alabama.....	9	546	60	10	13	7	20	26	...	30	
Arkansas.....	16	774	132	7	8	11	24	6	...	180	
Arizona.....	3	225	15	5	3	5	5	4	...	9	
California.....	39	4599	581	84	14	80	50	40	16	493	
Colorado.....	25	1816	91	27	10	22	34	16	...	56	
Connecticut.....	11	2984	194	4	2	57	12	19	...	112	
Dist. of Columbia.....	5	1692	94	18	8	25	18	17	1	59	
Florida.....	9	537	132	21	6	6	21	7	...	125	
Georgia.....	15	1284	190	24	2	17	33	13	...	153	
Illinois.....	67	10906	1005	80	38	178	220	113	3	609	
Indiana.....	47	4704	484	69	13	77	76	26	6	381	
Indian Territory.....	5	273	25	8	...	1	4	1	...	29	
Iowa.....	58	5271	384	63	28	91	148	91	1	150	
Kansas.....	49	3781	270	39	26	57	86	26	1	166	
Kentucky.....	26	2987	279	44	23	45	58	44	...	199	
Louisiana.....	8	518	75	4	2	5	5	3	...	68	
Maine.....	21	4071	313	61	5	62	56	18	1	242	
Maryland.....	13	1441	123	16	3	21	27	10	...	87	
Mass. and R. Island.....	46	14082	818	49	1	250	136	84	9	379	
Michigan.....	46	6660	425	36	7	102	50	37	...	279	
Minnesota.....	29	3104	200	46	12	42	70	38	...	108	
Mississippi.....	21	976	139	7	4	13	9	18	...	110	
Missouri.....	58	5197	387	59	35	86	113	144	...	154	
Montana.....	10	542	53	10	3	6	13	2	...	45	
Nebraska.....	26	1962	180	19	12	17	39	14	...	141	
New Hampshire.....	11	2376	110	...	...	43	12	11	1	43	
New Jersey.....	17	2255	179	13	12	38	14	29	...	123	
New Mexico.....	8	351	32	3	...	3	6	4	...	21	
New York.....	60	15808	1314	102	83	267	151	200	4	877	
North Carolina.....	12	513	71	6	1	6	15	20	...	37	
North Dakota.....	8	739	64	6	7	10	10	8	...	49	
Ohio.....	56	10454	824	83	72	164	105	170	4	536	
Oklahoma.....	9	499	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54	
Oregon.....	8	637	75	28	3	13	16	1	...	76	
Pennsylvania.....	79	16050	1496	114	...	244	103	102	2	1154	
South Dakota.....	14	941	63	6	6	11	32	12	1	19	
Tennessee.....	15	1037	64	14	13	19	27	16	...	29	
Texas.....	39	2865	349	141	17	36	158	35	...	278	
Vermont.....	12	2052	160	12	2	50	20	20	1	178	
Virginia.....	22	1934	218	41	6	28	64	...	...	172	
Washington.....	9	928	76	40	2	8	12	11	...	87	
West Virginia.....	15	1960	248	27	3	21	26	19	...	212	
Wisconsin.....	28	3396	210	24	10	62	64	38	1	77	
Wyoming.....	8	411	27	2	1	7	4	5	...	14	
Grand Encampment.....	15	1663	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	
Total in the U. S.....	1110	147801	12229	1472	936	2313	2166	1518	52	8461	
Canada.....	40	2547	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eng. and Wales.....	127	3500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland.....	43	1300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scotland.....	21	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Victoria (Australia)...	2	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total in the World.....	1343	155798	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

R. E. Erastus C. Knight is Grand Commander; E. Sir John H. Bonnington is Grand Recorder, and E. Sir Jessee B. Anthony is Chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

NORTH CAROLINA—1904.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Raleigh, June 15th and 16th. Present: R. E. James K. Northfleet, Grand Commander; E. Sir James C. Munds, Grand Recorder, together with a lot of Past Grands, Grand Representatives and delegates from twelve subordinates.

The address of the Grand Commander, is the shortest on record, less than three pages, but as it probably contained all that he had to say, it was of the proper length. We commend his brevity to sundry and divers Sky Pilots, who, when they get going do not know when to say "16th, and lastly." This propensity of the aforesaid, is what makes empty pews in lots of our churches and is largely responsible for the decadence of spirituality among church members. Ministers should preach the gospel in its simplicity and power, not indulge in platitudes and make the pulpit a stage for the display of their rhetorical attainments, their learning, and in efforts to prove the truths of Christianity which not one in a thousand of their hearers, are disposed to doubt. His "opening chorus" is good; his official acts were few and far between. He granted a few dispensations, for the same old purposes, which was all right and proper. His phiz adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest only. Finances healthy, treasury balance to the good, being \$944.14; total membership, 593, a net gain of 80.

Our good friend and brother, Southgate, sent in a letter expressing his "unspeakable regret at his inability to be present." Serious illness was the cause, and he has our sympathy and our best wishes for his speedy and permanent recovery. His report, however, was on deck, in which he digests the doings of nearly all the Grands, including ours, at Biloxi, to which he devotes a page. He says: The initial page contains a well executed portrait of R. E. Sir R. H. Henry, Grand Commander. From the button he wears we would say he is a "Shriner." That is what he is, Brother Southgate, and a very enthusiastic one at that. His dignity was somewhat ruffled when he was on his way to "Mecca," but the boys soothed him and now he is all right. He has, as is his custom, a pleasant word for this writer, which is appreciated.

We clip from his review of Montana, what follows:

The Report on Correspondence, (69 pp.) is submitted by Sir Cornelius Hedges, P. G. C., who for several years has been regaling us with good news from the West, and this year he comes with another message of good-will and cheerful hope for the future of Templarism. He is greatly concerned for the persecuted Jews, and for the Turk he has such disgust

we fear he does not remember him in his prayers. He will have to take the Japs and the Russian Bear in hand now and we will look with interest to see how he disposes of them in his next report. We are so sorry, though, that North Carolina did not reach his table in time for the review.

We are with Cornelius in his crusade against the unspeakable Turk, [as Quartermaster, or Commander in Chief] but we draw the line at the persecuted Jews, as they are and always have been, able to take care of themselves. We are not unmindful of the fact that our Saviour was, according to the flesh, of the Jewish race, but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that they are capturing the finances of this country and thus obtaining too large a measure of influence in its affairs, and that that influence is of too selfish a character for the common good. As a people they stand alone, without affiliation or community of interest with any other race on earth, and this sort of thing will bear watching. We admire the spirit and pluck of the little Japs, but it is questionable whether our sympathies should go with them, as against a so-called, Christian Nation. As a people they are as much heathen, more so, than the Turks, as the latter do believe in God, while the former have a multitude of gods made by themselves, and while their civilization is in advance of that of the Russian Empire, taken as a whole, the fact remains that they are of too mixed blood for us to side with them against the Caucasian race. However, God rules the nations of the earth and the results will be according to His will and will be right.

R. E. Sir F. Ulrich, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

NOTE. We do not wish to be understood as being antagonistic to the Jewish people, as some of the best friends we have ever had, were Jews, nor do we wish to arraign them for crimes against our country, its institutions, its laws or best interests. Our idea is, that in a government such as ours, classes and clannishness should have no place. Every patriotic citizen of this country is a factor in its government and should take an active, not a passive interest therein, and right here is where the great mass of our Jewish friends are found wanting. Their business interests are always paramount, (we speak of them as a class, or people) and they find but little time or interest for anything outside of the "mighty dollar," which is bad. Of course there are exceptions to this rule, many of them, but the fact remains that they are derelict along these lines. We can learn a good lesson from them, however, in the matter of charity and a pure and utterly unselfish benevolence. There is no people on earth who are so quick and free in the relief of distress, not among their own race alone, but all others, as are the descendants of Abraham. They are seldom seen in the prisoner's dock, in our criminal courts, and not often, as defendants in the civil. No matter what reason underlies this state of affairs, they are entitled to a large measure of credit for the fact itself. Nor is it remarkable, while still regrettable, that they are disposed to be clannish and to stand alone. For more than twenty centu-

ries they have had, apparently the mark of Cain upon them, and, for hundreds of years, the other races have considered that they did God and humanity a service, by maltreating, robbing and even killing the Jew. A better and higher civilization has come, and the chances are that the few errors and omissions with which the Jew can justly be charged, will correct themselves and the Jew will take the place that he ought to occupy, will strive more for the general and less for the personal good.

NORTH DAKOTA—1904.

The Fifteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Fargo, January 14th and 15th. R. E. Robert M. Carothers, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Frank J. Thompson, Grand Recorder. All the Grand Officers were, apparently, in attendance, together with half a dozen Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, Grand Representatives and delegates from all the Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is "short, sharp and decisive." We are not at all disposed, however, to find fault with him, or others, for this sort of sin. Brevity is said to be the soul of wit, and to a reporter, like we are, it is not only the soul, but the body and breeches as well, so don't string the thing out any longer than you can help, on our account. When Peter started to walk to his master, across the troubled waters, got scared at the rolling waves and began to sink, he was very, VERY brief in his prayer for help, and his example is a good one to follow, along all lines. Had Peter stopped to recite the attributes and glory of God, as our Sky Pilots frequently do as a preface and introduction to their alleged prayers, he would have sunk clear through the earth and came out on the other side before he had arrived at the gist of the business in which he was then engaged. He made but one decision, which we quote, not because it is important, but for the purpose of inquiring, whether the "machinery" referred to was connected with the land or the rent? Possibly it is the irrigation machinery, but as the language is misleading, we would like to have it explained. But here is the decision:

"Mr. D. wishes to send in his name to the Commandery. He came here a year ago, and his family was living here all last summer. He bought a dwelling in Minneapolis last fall and they are living there now, but came out after the winter. He expects to live here again this summer. He has an office and a lot here in town and owns a number of pieces of land in this county. The question is, is he a resident of this county? He will have to stay here several years to dispose of his land. He has rented some of it and owns most of the machinery.

Answer: It is my opinion that the Companion is a resident of the City of Minneapolis, Minn., and that before your Commandery can proceed it will be necessary to get a waiver from the Commandery having jurisdiction."

It is proper for us to remark, right here, that if we correctly understand it, the decision was correct. It depends upon where a man's permanent place of abode is, for temporary residence does not confer jurisdiction, no matter how frequent his visits or protracted his stay may be. In the one case the man is a resident and in the other a mere sojourner.

The proceedings were of local interest, only. A committee was appointed to buy an interest in the Palace Hotel, at San Francisco. The treasury contained a cash balance of \$1,485.99, besides some invested funds, which is pretty good. Total membership, 739, a net increase of 49.

There is no report on correspondence, which looks bad.

R. E. George H. Phelps, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder, as before.

O K L A H O M A — 1 9 0 4 .

The Ninth Annual was held in the city of Guthrie, February 11th; R. E. Enoch Moulton Banford, Grand Commander, presiding, and E. Sir Harper S. Cunningham, Grand Recorder. The attendance was good and the interest up to the average. We are glad to be able to say that there were no welcoming speeches and no reference to "hospitality" at four dollars a day, which is refreshing.

The address of the Right Eminent is constructed on the lazy man's plan, that is, he copies all the letters received by him or written by him, which is much the easiest way to write an address, but it is very provoking to a reviewer. We call it the lazy man's style advisedly, because, when we were Grand Master, that is the way we constructed our address, and Fred says that we are lazy. [And Fred says the point is well taken if we are to judge by that address which consumed two hours in the reading and knocked out E. George and two other readers, flat as a flounder.]

He opens with a vigorous kick against the lukewarmness of the Order in that bailiwick, says there are plenty of towns in the territory that have no commandery, and that about half of the territory is utterly destitute of such a thing. We suggest to our brother that Royal Arch Masons, not towns, is the proper material out of which to make Templars and open Commanderies. He then reads the Riot Act to the Grand Chapter for charging so much for dispensations and charters for new chapters and raises sand because the fees for the Orders is \$50, instead of \$30, the Grand Encampment minimum. Perhaps he is right about this. The manner in which the orders are conferred, in some commanderies, reduces the collection of any fee to the plane of highway robbery. We hope this state of things does not obtain in Oklahoma, however. He constituted one new commandery. Granted a few dispensations to ballot out of time, which was right, and paid one official visit. He made two decisions, neither of which is important. Among his recommendations is one advising a reduction to \$30, minimum, and that the dues to

Grand Commandery be reduced to 50 cents per annum. It occurs to us that a fee, or dues, of 50 cents per member, is about the best possible way to kill off the Grand Body. The dues were reduced to 75 cents for each member and \$1.50 for each postulant dubbed, during the year. Right in the face of these reductions, which will reduce the income of the Body to less than \$500 a year, they arrange to buy the Palace Hotel, in San Francisco, pay the Grand Commander's expenses, on that occasion and so on. It won't take them long to reach the bottom of the cash box, but it is none of our business. Our Dakotans still remain long on Art and Buncombe, and short on literature, as there is no report on correspondence.

R. E. Sir Charles Archibald Morris is Grand Commander; E. Sir Harper S. Cunningham, Grand Recorder.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A — 1 9 0 4 .

Fifty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of York, May 24th, with R. E. Charles W. Stock, Grand Commander, presiding and R. E. Sir Wm. W. Allen, Grand Recorder at the desk. The opening was preceded by an address of welcome, by the Mayor, in which he reviewed the early history of that historic town, made some remarks indicating that Masonry had some claims to age and respectability. In this connection he says: "The origin of Masonry, I find, dates back to the time of Noah, the Tower of Babel and the building of the Temple of King Solomon, etc." This shows that "His Honor" had been reading some Masonic fictions, the only merit of which is found in their colossal stupidity. We are aware that certain traditions, legends and what not, the offspring of credulity and a desire for the marvelous, are a part of the literature of Masonry, but in this "Tommy Rot" we take no stock. Hallum says, the literature of Freemasonry consisted of books in which enthusiasm supplied the place of learning and credulity displayed a haughty independence of facts and the subject was treated only by penegyrists of calumniators, both equally mendacious. These fellows that discovered these inscriptions from time to time, and interpreted them according to the bent of their own imaginations, remind us of the Sky Pilots of the "Holiness" persuasion, who will take any passage of scripture, including the account of the woman taken in adultery, "in the very act," and prove therefrom that God can, and does make an angel of purity and holiness out of a very mean man, simply in response to his request for Him to do so!! We do not believe this sort of "Rot" any more than we do that Noah had a little, one horse lodge, in the Ark, with himself as Master, Shem as Senior Warden, Ham as Junior Warden, Japhet as Senior and the old lady Junior Deacon, with the wives filling the other positions. There is no doubt that the Junior Deacon named above, like some of her descendants, was qualified to carry messages, as well as disseminate the news in general, but we doubt the correctness of the idea that Ham was ad-

mitted a member of a regular white lodge, that is if he, Ham, as is the popular belief, was the father of the negro race. This last proposition has less truth in it than all the legends and traditions that have been handed down, since Adam, because the negro is *not* a descendant of Adam, but is the connecting link between the human and the brute creation, is not a sharer in the redemption provided for the fallen race, the progenitors of which were expelled from the Garden of Eden, and compelled to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows, either in person or by proxy. He shows that there are no flies on York, and winds up with a sort of reference to keys, latch-strings and "hospitality," this last we presume, being held at current rates, \$1.50 up to \$10.00 per diem, without perks.

P. G. Commander, Penman, made response in behalf of the Grand Body, and he did it well. We note, however that he told the Mayor that Templars are not "ordinary men," but are a little above the average. This may be true in the Key-stone state, but our observation does not sustain the contention, outside of that bailiwick. We are glad to believe, however, that they are not hermaphrodites.

At the opening, R. E. Sir Charles M. Stock presided; R. E. Sir William W. Allen, Grand Recorder.

The address is a business document and an epitome of the important events of the administration. The attendance was large, with a big list of Past Grand Commanders and Grand Representatives on deck. We excerpt from the opening of the Grand Commander's address, what follows, for the purpose of remarking that this is about the earliest authentic history we have of the Masonic Institution, in its speculative aspect:

The Charter for every Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania bases the powers and authorities vested in the Supreme Body, and the right to grant Masonic warrant upon "the Old Constitutions revived by His Royal Highness, Prince Edwin, at York, in the Kingdom of England, in the year of the Christian Era Nine Hundred Twenty and Six."

When Athelstan, the Saxon, the grandson of Alfred the Great, reigned as Britain's king, his brother Edwin, moved by the love which he bore the Masonic Craft, purchased from him a free charter, which granted the Masons the privilege and power of regulating themselves, "and of holding a yearly communication and general assembly." Accordingly, at the bidding of the generous Prince Edwin, the Masons of all the land assembled at York, the grand old city of northern England, and the capital of the realm during the Roman occupation, and there constituted the first general or Grand Lodge, and nominated their royal patron and brother first Grand Master. The historian goes on to state that those Masons brought with them all the writings and records of the Craft which they possessed, "some in Greek, some in Latin, some in French, some in other languages, and from the contents thereof that assembly did frame the Constitution and Charges of an English Lodge."

And so it has come to pass that the York rite is the basis of all rites that claim a Masonic character.

[A young, learned and intelligent brother and friend of ours, sitting near me, denied the existence of Masonry, in its present speculative form, prior to A. D. 1717. He also remarks that the time between the latter named date and 1721, witnessed the reorganization of Operative into Speculative Masonry. He likewise remarked that the organization of the Operative Masons, in England and in Germany, had little to distinguish them, in their objects and purposes, from the forty, or more, Trade organizations, or Guilds, which existed in London, at that time and, like the Masons, enjoyed similar privileges, and immunities, and bore a close resemblance to our modern trade unions. We are disposed, however, to stick to our original proposition that 925 is the better date as it has a more ancient sound and antiquity, is what lots of people are hankering after and we are disposed to suit our menu to the tastes and appetites of our guests. You pay your money and take your choice.]

"Now is the winter of our discontent, made glorious summer by this 'Son of York!'"

Should any of you fail to see the connection between the quotation and the matter in parenthesis, we will explain. He pays appropriate tribute to the memory and merit of Knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. He issued one dispensation for a new commandery, as well as several others for the usual routine purposes. He made quite a number of decisions, most of them being constructions of their "Book of Laws" and are, probably correct. We quote one that is outside of the category just named :

Question : A candidate was convicted in the Courts of fraud a very few years ago and sentenced. Should he be permitted to become a Knight Templar?

Answer : It is my judgment that such a man does not possess the requisite moral qualifications. Whether or not he will become a Knight Templar will depend upon the moral sense and standard of the Commandery to which he applies.

We are disposed to demur to the decision, assuming that the convict had repented, reformed and brought forth fruits indicative of these facts, which he must have done or his petition would not have been received. If my brother sin against me, and repent, how oft' shall I forgive him? 'Till seven times? The Master replied: "I say not 'till seven times, but until seventy times seven." Keep in touch with the basis of your Order, my brethren. If the Lord treated us as we treat our erring brethren, but few of us would escape hell. The decision may be all right, under existing conditions, but we are discussing the subject in the light of our fundamental principles. It is not a question of forgiveness at all, but of character—whose image and superscription is this, Ceasars! The man stamped upon himself a character that leaves its indelible mark which cannot be effected by our condoning the fault. Free Masonry which holds its head higher than any other institution, makes the test of its initiates, the "tongue of good report." No bastard can be made a Ma-

son because he must be born of "honest parents." You may pity him as we do the halt and the blind whom we exclude, but an inexorable law fixes a stamp upon his character as the maim does upon the person.

The address, as a whole, is an excellent paper. A portrait of its author adorns the pamphlet. An admirable head and a pleasant face.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Grand treasury contained a cash balance of \$5,078.00. Total membership, 16,050.

This makes Pennsylvania the "Giant Planet" of our Templar system.

The correspondence report covers over one hundred pages, digests the minutes of 43 Templar Grands, including Mississippi, at Biloxi, and is the maiden effort of Sir James H. Coddington and a piece of which he is entitled to feel proud. Our good brother Smith, who is the chairman of the committee, seems to have caught the traveling fever from our beloved John, of Chicago, in the United States, and went off on a jaunt and made Brother Coddington do the work. Brother Coddington is quite chary of comments hence there is a paucity of original matter in the report, that we are not pleased with. His attention to our pamphlet is quite full and very pleasant. He endorses Fred in his suggestion as to the presence of ladies on certain occasions and calls his eulogy of Brother Drummond, and other illustrious Templar dead, "a beautiful tribute."

Of your distinguished reporter, he says:

"Past Grand Commander DeLap is still, we are glad to say, the Correspondent. The present production is to our liking, and there is no falsehood in his introductory remark that "there are lots of good things in this report." A little later we propose to copy a few, and wish we could spare room for more.

Brother DeLap is not a friend of hypocrisy or sham. He vigorously demolishes all such idols, and our candid judgment is that he does good work by plain talk without a bit of malice.

On the subject of "invasions" and "pilgrimages" we enlist in his company. It was to be hoped that these absurdities had died out, but the disease has reappeared somewhat near home, hence our willingness to help destroy it."

We are obliged to our friend and brother for his kind words, and for enlisting with us in our crusade against "invasion" and "pilgrimage" nonsense.

We copy his conclusion:

"The annual camps have been visited, and the impressions therefrom are submitted. There has been no intention to write a long report, nor to measure out one page here, or two or more elsewhere. And some jurisdictions furnishing many pages of proceedings supply comparatively few items which we thought would be of interest to our Pennsylvania brethren. For what has been written, such as it is, has been intended primarily for home consumption.

It is true, as generally noted, that subjects for controversy are practically eliminated. But this does not minimize the importance of the reviewers' work, for the presentation of facts and conditions is just as

acceptable as argumentative discussion. Our readers are glad and proud to learn of the progress of the Order, and that its banners lead a swelling host to victory. May the triumph be a strong force in the uplift of humanity!

Personally, we are pleased to chat a little with the Guild. Its members are companionable gentlemen, some of whom have given much time during many years to this work. We regard them with sincere affection and as able exponents of Templarism.

We observe that some object to the word *Templarism*. It is not a serious matter, but we prefer it, just as we use the words Americanism, Protestantism, Methodism, Republicanism. Like Templarism, each of these is a system, power, force, which has influenced our career. It is not likely that the result would have been different had either word been differently spelled.

To all our brethren we extend cordial good wishes."

R. E. Sir Wilson I. Fleming, Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as of yore, Brother Smith having returned.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1904.

The Twenty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of Yankton, June 12th, with R. E. Sir Fred A. Stafford, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir George A. Pettigrew, Grand Recorder. All the Grand Officers were present, together with six Past Grand Commanders, and a lot of Past Commanders and Grand Representatives.

The address of the Grand Commander is quite lengthy and is largely built on the free and easy plan of incorporating correspondence. He pays proper tribute to the memory and worth of the Knightly dead both of his own and sister jurisdictions. He constituted two new Commanderies, which started out under favorable conditions. He made several decisions, most of them of minor importance.

While the report of the Grand Recorder shows a slight falling off in membership, the Right Eminent says the Order in that bailiwick, was never in a more healthy and prosperous condition than it now is. It frequently occurs that there is more good in a corporal's guard than in an entire company, and the rule holds good in our Order as well as in the army. We too often allow the latch-string of our outer door, to hang on the outside for the admission of Tom, Dick and Harry "without regard to age, sex or previous condition of servitude." He reports the purchase of a small interest in the "Grand Hotel" in San Francisco by the Triennial Committee and that he had approved the same. We hope that all the expectations of all the Templars who attend, will be fully realized, but we doubt it. He is not ungrateful to Grand Recorder Pettigrew, for faithful services and efficient help, and says so. Had he waited until Brother Pettigrew had "crossed the divide" before praising him, it would have done him, Brother Pettigrew, no good at all, hence the propriety of ante-mortem, instead of post-mortem eulogies. It is barely possible that in some

cases, many perhaps, could the deceased wake up and hear what was being said of his many excellencies of life and character, by the officiating eulogist, he would be surprised at the onward march of tall mendacity since he "handed in his checks." An elegant portrait of the R. E. author adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The treasury contained a cash balance of \$1,124.17. Total membership, 941, a net gain of 19, which does not tally with the remarks of the Right Eminent, quoted above.

The correspondence is the ninth offense of Brother Sam. Jumper, who makes an excellent "standing jump," covering thirty-nine feet, or Grand Jurisdictions, just as you please, in his usually pleasant and graceful style, Mississippi, at Biloxi, among the number. Brother Sam's attention to our doings is short, but pleasant and kind. He quotes, briefly, from Ollie's address, and has this to say of your committee:

Brother DeLap is without doubt the spiciest writer in the Guild. Like a two-edged sword, he cuts both ways into matters not to his liking.

At first, one is inclined to take his sting as venomous; but before he is through, there is so much of good nature and josh in what he says that the whole is like the kiss of the feathery edge of a soft summer zephyr. Coming to South Dakota in a playful manner he criticizes the "opening chorus," as he is pleased to term the opening of Sir Lorimer's address.

He seems to "have it in" for the Grand Recorder, Sir Frederic Speed; but, unless our impressions are at fault "Fred" can give him cards and spades and then do him up.

He concludes one of the best reports we have reviewed, with the kindest and best wishes for us all.

We are obliged to him for the flattering words he has for us, but the sun of his perspicacity seems clouded, as the third paragraph of the quotation, too clearly indicates. Our beloved Fred would be more likely to ask for "cards and spades" than to offer to give them to us, much more. It must not be inferred however, that because Fred has a way of "jawing back" at any one who does not agree with him, that during the thirty-five years in which he and the writer have been the most affectionate friends, with mutual esteem for each other, that there has ever an unkind word spoken by either of us and if we have rubbed the forehead of Frederic's fur backwards whenever the occasion required, it must not be inferred that we have "had it in" for him in any unkind or ungenerous sense. [To which Fred responds "Me to, Kitty."] If we detect any other symptoms of lunacy in Bro. Sam, we will immediately ask for a "Commission de lunatico inquirendo" and have him confined.

R. E. Sir Alfred F. Pilcher is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

TENNESSEE—1904.

The Forty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Chattanooga, May 10th, with R. E. Sir John Wilson Bailey, Grand Commander, presiding; Sir John Berry Garrett, Grand Recorder. The attendance

was quite full. The opening was preceded by the usual welcoming speeches, devotional offices and a rather fair sermon, from the the text: "What is Man?" Josh Billings says, in effect, that he is a bundle of dirt and smells of the material out of which he is composed! There are a great many people that never succeed in wearing off or ridding themselves of this smell of dirt, which is unfortunate. An Irishman contemplating the skeleton of a jackass, involuntarily quoted the saying of the Psalmist: "We are fearfully and wonderfully made!" However, the line of thought of the preacher was in the direction of the kinship between man and his Maker, his intellectual capacities and the superlative importance of his immortal part, a matter almost entirely lost sight of by the people of our day, judging by their actions. We are glad to note that the early Templars were not paraded as exemplars for us, in any of the speeches, or the sermon, which is pleasant.

The address is short, confined to local matters, and includes too many letters, in bodily form. We adopted this style in our addresses to the Grand Lodge, when Grand Master, but have been ashamed of it ever since. He issued the usual batch of dispensations and for the same old purposes, made no decisions, but did make a number of visitations. He also stated that an hotel had been purchased, in San Francisco, for the triennial blow out. He has an amusing suggestion in his conclusion, that when the Grand Commander visits a subordinate, and it is possible, that there should be an exemplification of the Work, so that his highness can determine whether the work is done correctly, or not! How many Right Eminents are there, active and past, that would know a correct ritual if they should meet it in the road? We "paws" for a reply.

The proceedings were brief and of local interest. Treasury balance, \$6,005.53. Total membership, 1,037, a gain of 25. We note that their "Pay Roll," last year, amounted to \$386.75; a pretty steep roll for thirteen subordinates.

The correspondence report is the finished work of our good brother, H. H. Ingersoll. We copy his opening:

About to start this fickle April day upon another annual alphabetical tour of those English-speaking States, where floats the banner of the Cross and wave the white plumes of its sworn defenders, your correspondent gives glad greetings to the thousand Knights of Tennessee, who, forswearing all other allegiance, have voluntarily enlisted for life in willing service of the Prince of Peace, hoping that in his journey he may gather a glorious harvest of sentiment and glad tidings of great joy for our faithful Order which believes implicitly in Him "who for us men, and for our salvation came down from Heaven," not only to keep men out of Hell hereafter, but to keep Hell out of men in this present life; and another greeting to our fraternal guild, committed to the glad service of strengthening the golden chain of fraternal amity among the 140,000 members of the Grand Army of Knights Templar, who are ever in the forefront of the battles of that unceasing warfare waged for the regeneration and amelioration of the human race.

From Alabama to Wyoming is no mere Sabbath Day's journey, but the correspondent hopes to make the trip so pleasant and profitable that

none who share it with him will regret his guidance, and all will gladly see and greatly enjoy this annual panorama of Knight-Templary.

We demur to the last clause of the first paragraph. We do not believe that the great mass of those 140,000 Templars are in the forefront of the battle for the "regeneration and amelioration of the human race!" The majority of them, if they are in the campaign at all, are simply "camp followers, sutlers and such." It is possible that, in this view of the matter, we are as pessimistic as brother Ingersoll is optimistic in his.

Brother Ingersoll digests the doings of most the Templar legislative bodies of the world, in his usual lucid and interesting style. He reviews both Biloxi and Greenville. He quotes liberally from both addresses, Fred and this correspondent, has a pleasant word for all of us, all of which is pleasant. In reply to our query as to who "Thereites" was, he says: "He was the DeLap of the Grecian warriors who besieged the city of Troy and did the Foreign Correspondence for them!" If he was anything like his prototype, he must have been a corker!

We also copy from his review of our report for last year:

The transactions of the Commandery were chiefly of local interest, and Frater Burkitt was chosen Grand Commander, and Frates Speed and DeLap appropriately continued in the positions of Recorder and Correspondent, which they fill so well.

The latter affects not to understand what this Correspondent calls "fetish" of the sacred line in Masonry. It is necessary to supply to our English cousins diagrams to accompany our American jokes; but who would have thought it of DeLap? We praise Mississippi for destroying the fetish of the official line of promotion, and Frater DeLap innocently asks "What was the 'fetish'?" Would it were "was," and that it lay secure in the tomb of the Capulets. Unfortunately it is an existing custom as persistent and pernicious as thorns and thistles. It haunts every Lodge and Asylum, Subordinate and Grand, with its baleful tenacity, and when some piece of clever mediocrity is chosen to fill the lowest of the elective offices, it demands and commands that he shall be elevated step by step to the official summit of the body, to the pinnacle where alone can securely stand the natural Master or Commander of men. It proves paralyzing to genius and talent, as the official seniority rule does in army or navy, and often prevents our Order from having the service of its best members in its places of responsibility and power. This is the "fetish" of the official line, and it invites the heroic efforts of the iconoclast.

There is a manifest conspiracy between DeLap and Morford of Arizona to cajole this Correspondent from using his scissors, and thus cheat Tennessee Frates out of the brightest specimens of annual Masonic literature; but they will not succeed. Tennessee Templar taste demands an equal use of scissors and pencil, and we shall continue to give our Frates the best excerpts of the year from other Jurisdictions, with words of praise which they evoke and comments provoked by occasional ebullitions of folly in all parts of the cauldron.

We beg to suggest to our Brother Henry, that it is not needful to send a diagram of a "goak" in order that we may see the point. The

reason we did not catch on, in this instance, is found in the fact that our Brother was mistaken in supposing that the continuity of succession, in office, had been broken by us, when such was not the case. There has been no real break in the line of regular succession, only an apparent one. Happily for the Grand Body, this writer has had the honor to nominate nine-tenths of the officers of the Grand Commandery, for the past ten years, and he has been exceedingly careful to nominate no "sticks." At Water Valley Brother Henry was jumped over Brother Burkitt, but at the request of the latter, who had his weather eye fixed on San Francisco and thus stole a march on the redoubtable "Hy." That is all.

We beg to add that we heartily endorse our Brother's views, as above expressed, and have always held the same. "Ephraim is joined to idols," however, and we may as well "let him alone."

We excerpt from his conclusion :

Home again from all the foreign lands of fraternal correspondence, which the mail and express service has allowed us to see and report on, bringing to you, dear Fratres, such things of merit as we observed and preserved on our tour. You will find it a hodge-podge of clipping and comment in nearly equal parts, sense and nonsense in due proportion for instruction and entertainment ; for

"A little nonsense, now and then,
Is relished by the best of men."

Shrine and wine seem to be the most prominent topics of discussion in the proceedings. Some would forever abolish both from Templar thought and desire ; others would permit them to each individual *ad lib.* Some would allow one and forbid the other. To what we have already said of them we only add that the ancient Latin Maxim well applies here, as elsewhere—in *mediis tutissimus ibis*.

R. E. Sir Archibald Nevins Sloan is Grand Commander ; Grand Recorder and Correspondent continued.

TEXAS—1904.

The Fifty-first Annual was held in the city of Paris, April 13th and 14th, R. E. Sir W. H. Bell, Grand Commander, presiding ; E. Sir J. C. Kidd, Grand Recorder. The opening was preceded by devotional offices, a welcoming speech, in the latter of which the matter of hospitality is touched upon, and that of Paris, Texas, in no uncertain tones. The orator claimed for that town the title of "champions !" We would like to inquire the price per day, of the Paris brand of the article, and shrewdly suspect that, being the "champions" the price was higher than in ordinary places. He also told the boys that they were the champions of that other one of the cardinal virtues, of Templars, Christianity, which

evened things up to the satisfaction of all. We are just as free to admit that Paris is the champion of modern hospitality at \$5.00 a day, as we are to admit that the ordinary Templar is the champion of Christianity, of the modern style. Both come high and neither is remarkably desirable to a man with a limited bank account. He clinched the welcome with the remark that, "our hearts and our homes are open to you, everything, in fact, except our jails and calaboses." We hope that none of the "knightly host" got into the latter, and that they succeeded in filling the former to their utmost capacity. We hear some strange news of the character of "hospitality" now holding the boards at St. Louis, and beg to indulge the hope that the Paris article was of a different brand. We note, also, that the speaker had a kindly word for the "bachelor Knight's," in attendance, suggesting that should they see a piece of calico that suited their fancy, they should propose and his suit would be backed up by the entire community. This was a big thing for the "boys," but rather hard on the girls.

The response was made by the Grand Generalissimo, who started out with the news, chestnutty, of course, that the original Templar attended vespers, just as the last rays of the setting sun gilded the tree tops and hay stacks along, with His Royal Highness the King and his court, pious, as bob sleds, etc., and he might have added that the whole capoodle adjourned from "vespers" and made night hideous with their devilment.

Then followed a sermon, by the Grand Prelate, from the text: "Therefore brethren stand fast, and hold the traditions ye have been taught, by Word of our epistle," Thes. II, second chapter, fifteenth verse. The sermon is published in full, and is a fairly good one, although the burden of his song is along the line of glorification of the Order, than in the dissemination of the Gospel of Christ. The Master accused the Pharisees with making void the commandments of God by their traditions, and it will be well for us to avoid a similar error.

Having finished the preface to our review of Texas, we now proceed to attack the many defenses. The first thing done was to receive, with becoming style, the M. E., the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Sir Henry Bates Stoddard, which was done in due and ample form.

The address of the Grand Commander while quite lengthy, contains nothing of general interest. He is something of a poet, as the fact that he promulgated the Xmas toast in verse, which we assume was original, as there are no quotation marks. It is fairly good for an amateur, but is not up to the happiest efforts of Longfellow, et als. He granted the usual batch of dispensations and for the same old purposes, all of which was the correct thing for him to do. He made few decisions, with the assistance of the Grand Master, one of them correct, and one exceedingly shaky. The latter was that a Companion who had lost his right hand, but was doing a fairly good business with an artificial hand, was ineligible! We assume, from this, that arms and legs, or rather physical perfection, cut a wider swath in the qualifications of candidates for admission into an order founded upon the Xtian religion and the practice of the Xtian

virtues, than does a large allowance of gray matter, coupled with those graces of life and character that should always distinguish the true soldiers of the cross of Christ. That the applicant was able to perform all that is needful of the work of the Order, with his artificial hand, is apparent, from the correspondence and whenever such a decision as this is made, it stultifies the Order, makes it ridiculous and disgusts people who have more regard for brains and moral and Christian character, in an applicant, than they do for his perfection as a dude. It is likely that a strict construction of the law would sustain the Grand Master's decision, so that we wish to be understood as railing against the law, its foolishness, stupidity and all round assininity, rather than as finding fault with the Most Eminent and the Right Eminent. Let the law be changed so as to make it conform to common sense and the eternal fitness of things.

The address is a very good one, except that instead of summarizing them, he copies his letters, which is not the best way. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. A pleasant, kindly and intellectual face.

Proceedings were routine and mostly of local interest. Grand treasury contained a cash balance of \$3,996.72, account of General Fund; \$1,683.85, account of Triennial Fund. This last fund will, no doubt, go up in smoke and wassail, at San Francisco, no small amount of it being necessary to purchase an interest in the Palace Hotel. Grand Recorder reported total collections of \$3,760.00; total membership, 2,865, a gain of 278. The report of the Committee on Credentials showed a very large attendance, among the rest nine Past Grand Commanders and a multitude of Past Eminent Commanders.

The Triennial Committee reported that they had bought an interest in the "Grand Hotel," to be held for five days, their holdings consisting of a parlor, two bed rooms and a bath room, for which they are to pay \$25 per day; also 12 rooms, (bed room) in the Montrose hotel, which will accommodate fifty persons, for which they are to pay \$2.00 per day for each person occupying said rooms. Let us figure a little and ascertain the cost of San Francisco "HOSPITALITY," per day, on the occasion of a Triennial blow-out; \$2.00 a day for a place to sleep, to which add \$1.00 for breakfast, (it will, probably, be more than that,) \$1.50 for dinner, and \$1.00 for supper, together with not less than an average of \$2.00 for liquid and other refreshments and we have a grand total of \$7.50, for one day's hospitality of San Francisco brand. The moral of all this is, that it would be better for the Grand Encampment to buy "Spirit Lake" from Iowa, erect hotels to be run under its auspices and prices regulated by it, and thus save the triennial robbery of its members by people in the cities where it has been its custom to meet. But they won't do it! Their lucid intervals are too short for such a job.

The correspondence covers 102 pages, reviews the transactions of most of the Templar Grands of the world, and is the joint production of brothers Elgin and Rounsavall. The report, like its predecessors from the same source. We copy the opening chorus:

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence herewith submits its review of the proceedings of such Templar Bodies as have come to their hands. A few of the proceedings of Sister Jurisdictions are absent from our table and owing to the lateness of the day at which we close the review of those received we have not time to write to Grand Recorders for them. The Chairman of the Committee hoped at the outset that he might have the time to complete the work without calling upon another member. But before the work was half completed found it necessary to solicit the services of Sir Knight R. O. Rounsavall, who as he has heretofore been, kind enough to give his valuable and careful assistance. As has been the case heretofore, we have had no opportunity for consultation and each has written his part entirely independent of the other. The writer of the reviews of the several Grand Bodies will be indicated by the initial at the bottom of each. It is well known that the Grand Commandery is not responsible for the opinions expressed in these reports. They are unofficial entirely, but are entitled to weight in proportion to the cogency of the reasons assigned and are respected as coming from those who are disinterested and have enjoyed favorable opportunities to be well informed and to render correct judgment. E.

Our good Brother Elgin is the architect of the review of Mississippi at Biloxi, and it is very full, somewhat flattering (to "Ollie") and very fraternal. He says of Ollie's address, that it is "a splendidly written document; short, plain and in good taste." That is Mississippi style of literature Brother Elgin, as you have, possibly, noticed in the past. He raps us over the knuckles for not putting the matter of a time limit to elections, before the Grand Encampment, properly and in such a way as to secure the attention of that august aggregation to the matter at its San Francisco conclave. He suggests, and very sensibly, too, that we adopt the Texas plan and make our own law on this subject. Brother Elgin's attention to our report is very pleasant. He thinks that a double barrelled correspondence committee is a good thing, as when one grows old and feeble, it is a good thing to have a strong, young arm to lean upon, which is a nice way to put it. He copies the dissertation we indulged in in regard to hospitality, which the intelligent compositor mangles up in this fashion; "takes longer to convince a lot of visitor. that *they* are an appreciable element of hospitality etc.," instead of saying, "that there is an appreciable element, etc." When we first read this rendering of our chaste and elegant English, we should have enjoyed hanging the culprit, and would have done so, had we got our hands on him. He thus comments:

We are not sure that it is just to represent the hotel men or others who are *materially* benefited as the most prominent in extending welcome to our members who attend the Grand Commandery. They do not represent the hospitable portion of the community. You will find more pretty girls and lovely matrons, and more disinterested citizens come out to welcome and hear the address of welcome to the Sir Knights than the class referred to. It is true, the orators are often long-winded; we too, have often been tired before they had half-finished. But the same may be said of a sermon. Good things are not unfrequently overdone.

Brother DeLap gives us a little rap for our remarks about the Shrine, and seems to think we are averse to fun, frolic and amusement, and quotes the old chestnut at us:

"A little nonsense now and then
Is relished by the best of men."

We plead "not guilty," Sir Enoch, and in proof of it will say that we have taken your advice and read your entire report.

We admit the strength of our brother's plea, but the really hospitable citizens of a place should manage to prevent their hotel and boarding house people from robbing us fellows. That last clause anent the Shrine, etc., is pretty hard on us, but we can stand it and enjoy the sly dig as well as any one else, altho' we are the sufferer.

R. E. Sir Edwin Chamberlain is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

VERMONT—1904.

The Sixty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Burlington, June 14th, with R. E. Sir Silas H. Danforth, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Henry H. Ross, Grand Recorder. Ten Past Grand Commanders and a multitude of Grand Representatives, were in attendance and delegates from twelve Subordinate Commanderies.

The address is a short but a well written resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of a startling or blood-curdling character. Proper notice is taken of the merits and worth of the knightly host who have crossed the divide and entered upon the realities of Eternity. He issued five different brands of dispensations, as follows: "To appear in public and pass without the State: To appear in public within the State: To enter the State: To ballot, etc., etc." The three first are a rehash of the "Invasion" foolishness and ought to have been left out. The idea that it is incompatible with the honor and majesty of the Order to allow its organized bodies to visit each other across state lines, in this country of ours, without the permission of the High Muck-a-Muck of each of those states, is simple nonsense. He reports the purchase of a slice of the Palace Hotel, in San Francisco, the occupancy of which, together with the incidents thereof, are, as we write this, matters of history, the Triennial having come and "went," as the fellow said. He reports the Order in good shape. His portrait adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$2,360.73; total membership, 2052, a gain of 80.

The correspondence is the literary offspring of our good brother Marsh O. Perkins, who, while possibly a relative of "Eli Perkins," has a much better reputation for veracity than has Eli, which is refreshing. The report covers some seventy odd pages and digests the doings of nearly all of the Templar legislative bodies, and is both instructive and

entertaining. Our Greenville session gets nearly two pages of courteous attention and this committee some appreciated taffy, for which we are obliged.

We copy his conclusion :

The preparation of the annual Report on Correspondence was assigned last year to the Grand Recorder, a seemingly wise departure from the usage for many years of the Grand Commandery. The acceptance of the duty at the time by Sir Knight Ross assured all of a most worthy successor to Past Grand Commander Haskins, who, after rendering distinguished service as correspondent during a period of twelve years, had asked to be excused from further duty as such, because of the increasing pressure of his public and professional duties. At a very late day we were informed by the R. E. Grand Commander that the Grand Recorder had asked to be relieved from the preparation of the report, because of the demands upon his time by other official duties. With the information came the request that we assume the special duty from which the Grand Recorder sought to be relieved. A request coming in this manner and from such a source could hardly be construed otherwise than as a command to be obeyed in a spirit of loyalty to the Grand Commandery and with pleasure to self, the measure of the latter lessened in its fullness only by the natural hesitancy of any one to attempt to make good, even in part, the place so long and ably filled by Sir Knight Haskins.

Having accounted for our presence at the round table at this time, we may say we come not wholly as a novice in this particular field of Templar effort, as we served a 'prenticeship a few years ago while substituting for Frater Haskins, who had been called upon by the Templars of Vermont to accept service as their Grand Commander. But during the years that have since elapsed, we have necessarily lost "touch of elbow" with the knights of the guild, and now find many names and faces, familiar to us for the time being, missing from correspondence pages and circle. Some have voluntarily sought retirement, as did Frater Haskins. More have passed to the activities of the higher life. We come into the presence of their successors encouraged and buoyed up by the hope that the veterans of the guild remaining may have some dim recollection that we tried to do our best on that previous occasion even if that best was but feeble as compared with others' efforts.

The remembrance of the many courtesies then extended us by them, serves in some measure to lessen the tension of the feeling of strangeness in our new surroundings. We have again done the best we could with limited time at our disposal. We have undoubtedly made many mistakes, but our errors are of the head and not of the heart. We hope we have committed no grave offense. Conscious of the many imperfections of our report that possibly might have been corrected with a better opportunity for revision, before sending it forth and more impressed than ever before that in true, Christian knighthood is found the highest human type of Christian manhood, we write with knightly salutations to one and all.

R. E. Sir William H. Kingsley, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

VIRGINIA—1903.

The Eighty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Richmond on the 12th day of November. R. E. Sir James Thomas LeSeuer,

Grand Commander; R. E. Sir James Braxton Blanks, Grand Recorder. The attendance was good.

The Grand Commander's address is short, made up, largely, of copies of letters to and from, which, as before remarked, is a pernicious custom, and is devoid of interest outside of that jurisdiction. Two of the official board passed away during the year. To the memory and virtues of these Brethren, proper tribute is paid. He made no decisions and granted but few dispensations. His face makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet. The proceedings were routine and confined to matters of local interest. The treasury contained a balance to credit of General Fund, \$450.47, and the Triennial Fund, \$478.55. Total membership, 1,934, a gain of 172, the largest gain in the history of the Body.

The correspondence report is the unfinished work of our good friend and brother, J. E. Alexander and takes in the list up to and including part of the letter "M," after which appears these:

We come again with another failure, but we have not forgotten our promise that if this should be the case, we would cease from service on the Committee on Correspondence. Illness, due in a great measure to overwork has been the largest factor in this failure; the subsequent edict against night reading and writing, and hitherto unknown apathy and indifference which followed the illness, completed the wreck of our report. We shall let it go as a "derelict," believing that for the brief period it may float, it will be harmless, and that when it shall have passed from sight, it will be as though it had never been written.

Every hour of service has been enjoyed, and we have appreciated the dignity and honor conferred by Grand Commandery.

We had hoped to sit some day in company with those who have so honored with brain and pen the Templars of this land, but this privilege is not to be ours. We have learned to love men whom we have never seen, and have felt the thrill and uplift of their thought. To each brother correspondent we wish the largest measure of influence and success, not only for Templar Masonry but in every field in which they are engaged or may hereafter enter. We are sure our successor will be given a seat at the Round Table as soon as he files his report.

We beg to extend our sympathy and to express the hope that, long ere this, he is fully restored and that he will present a piece of work, in November that will further prove his claim to the title of a "Master Builder" in the Temple of Masonic literature.

R. E. Sir James W. Bryant is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

WASHINGTON—1904.

The Seventeenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Seattle, June 21st, R. E. Sir Lincoln F. Gault, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Yancy C. Blalock, Grand Recorder. Eight Past Grand Commanders were present.

The address of the Grand Commander covers fourteen pages and is devoid of startling incidents, except the fact that he has discovered a

large sized mare's nest located in the ceremonial of the Shrine, the eggs in the nest being of the intemperate use of tangle-foot and forty-rod-red-eye, by which the morals of some weak brethren are corrupted and "sich."

We excerpt a part of his "Protest" against the Arabs:

An observation and experience of fifteen years convinces me that more harm is being done to Masonry and Templarism by the SHRINE than any other influence. It is most unfortunate that this organization appears to be so closely allied to the Masonic Orders, that the world at large accepts it as a part of Masonry. Its supporters will say that it is no part of Masonic institutions, but the fact remains that the membership is composed of Thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Masons and Knights Templar.

Sir Knights, I have seen the face of a candidate when receiving the Order of the Temple light up with the apparent resolution to do and to be all that the profound lessons are calculated to teach him. I have seen him but a few days later with face flushed from indulgence at the so-called ceremonial of this Order of the Crescent, and my mind has been tortured by the too evident inconsistency of the profession we make as a fraternity teaching temperance and morality.

You may say that you are able to partake of the cup without offending and that your pleasure should not be curtailed because some unfortunate brother cannot control his liking for the wine when it is red, but I say to you that in the Masonic fraternity, if nowhere else, you are your brother's keeper.

We do not know how they initiate novices up there, but if there is a bar attachment, it is a very different state of affairs from that we have down here. I have never seen a drop of spirituous or malt liquors, wine or cider in the ceremonial work of the Order, nor any signs of intemperate use of these things at the banquet, which always follows a ceremonial session, but is no part of the "ceremonial" of the institution. It is true that sometimes some of the novices take the trouble to brace up on "rot-gut" before they start to Mecca and in doing this they disgrace themselves, their Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, but the Shrine is, in no sense, responsible for this state of affairs. Every once in a while one of these long-faced, puritanical brethren bobs up serenely and takes a whack at the Shrine, and mourns over the critical condition of the Order of the Temple and that of Masonry, caused by the existence and devilment of the Arabs.

You might just as well blame the Shrine for the devil in the Church, as to make it responsible for the weaknesses of Masons and Templars; weaknesses that crop out and show themselves whenever one of the silly, addleheaded young ducks get away from home, and from under the eyes of their family and neighbors. The trouble is that these people are made Masons and Templars when they ought to have been blackballed, in the start, instead of making Masons and Templars out of them and then blaming the Shrine for their general worthlessness. Give us a rest. We repeat our former remark, that if Masonry and the Templar Order can't stand the alleged evil communications of the Arabs, it is time that

both were dead and buried out of sight. It is proper for us to remark, that we have no use for drunken Templars, Masons, members of the Church, or any other respectable institution, but we deny that the Shrine is any more a promoter of intemperance than is the Order of the Temple, members of the church and Masons who sign liquor petitions to perpetuate the saloons.

He made but one decision, and that was wrong, to-wit, that a petition blackballed by mistake, cannot be renewed until the expiration of the statutory time.

His portrait adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Balance in treasury, \$2,477.47. Total membership, 928, a net gain of 87, which is pretty good.

The correspondence is the thirteenth offense, in this line, of our old friend and fellow Mutual, Grand Recorder Yancey P. Blacock, in which he briefly considers the transactions of twenty-eight Templar Legislatures, Mississippi not included, the result of an earlier report and the fact that our pamphlet had not materialized.

Under Illinois he quotes from a speech made by Brother Mellish of Ohio, at Peoria, as follows:

It has been also a very great pleasure to pay this, my first visit, to the beautiful city of Peoria—to be welcomed by my old friend Spring, and to be one of those who have been so cordially welcomed with the very eloquent words of this clerical brother who presented to us the welcome of Peoria Commandery.

I now know the full meaning of a little story that I heard about a Templar who had a dream, and dreamt that he was in heaven, and going about through the many apartments and chambers and mansions, he finally said to St. Peter, "Are there no Templar Masons here?" The saint said, "Yes, we have many." The Templar said, "I would like to see them." They took him to a very beautiful room and there he saw many of those whom he had known and heard of while in this world, and he said, "Are these all Templars and all Masons?" "Yes," "I am glad to see so many of them," was the reply, "but," he said, "good St. Peter, why have you got that one over there chained to the floor?" "Why," said St. Peter, "that one is a Baptist preacher from Peoria. We are afraid if we didn't keep him chained he would go back to Peoria." [Laughter and applause.]

It is quite a rarity for an Ohio man to be in a city where they say they will "love him to death." I understand, however, that does not extend to the ladies of Peoria Commandery, because if it does I shall be much embarrassed.

It is singular that this tit bit escaped our eagle eye, when reviewing the Sucker's, but it certainly did.

We regret the absence of Mississippi from this excellent report. We copy his conclusion:

Our report being closed earlier than usual this year makes the number of "missing" larger than usual, but we have reviewed twenty-eight—all that we have received up to the time of going to press, and as we

wish to place our proceedings in the hands of the Sir Knights prior to the Triennial, we have rushed ourselves as well as the "printer." Silver I have a little, and gold I have none, but such as I have, give I unto you, hoping if you read it will do you good.

R. E. Sir Edwin W. Craven is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

WEST VIRGINIA—1904.

The Thirtieth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Charleston, May 11th. There were present R. E. Sir Charles H. Ahrens, Grand Commander; E. Sir Francis E. Nichols as Grand Recorder, our good brother Grand Recorder Dunnington, having passed to his Eternal home on February 11th, ulto. Peace to his ashes and consolations to the loved ones left behind. All the Subordinate Commanderies were represented.

The address of the Grand Commander is a business paper, well written and occasionally interspersed with some eloquent thoughts, clothed in pure English. We excerpt a paragraph from his "prologue:"

Of our country it can be truly said "She is at peace with the world," and consequently we hear not the shrill notes of the war trumpet nor the deafening sound of martial music that is necessary to drown the groans of the wounded and dying, as is now the case in the far East. Everywhere, whether in the home of the Knight or within the sacred precincts of the Asylum, peace, sweet peace, prevails. And why should not this be, when we have peace for our watchword and love for our password and Immanuel for our Commander?

Proper tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, and the list is a long one. His visitations were quite general and, no doubt, were productive of good. Sociology is a good thing and should receive more attention from our rank and file, than is now the rule. The visit of the Grand Commander to a subordinate command, amounts simply to the boys having a good time and getting acquainted with each other, which is as great a help in the life of a commandery as it is in the life of a church. In the latter there are classes and cliques that stand in the same relation to each other, as did the Jews and the Samaritans, in the time of our Lord, i.e. they have no dealings with each other, and the idea that the author of the Gospel takes any special interest in an aggregation of this sort, is too utterly at variance with ordinary barn-yard sense to talk about. His dispensations were out of the ordinary, none of them being permits to rush the ballot and one of them being a sort of "Letter of Marque" allowing one of his subordinates to "INVADE" Ohio!! What superlative nonsense all this is!

We excerpt what follows from his closing:

The thirtieth year of this Grand Commandery is fast passing away and will leave behind its joys and its sorrows, its hopes and its fears,

its opportunities neglected and the record of the duties performed. And now, Sir Knights, a new life begins with us every second, and I shall soon present this gavel, the emblem of authority, to another to begin the new year. In doing so I look forward to beginning it joyfully, and to its end hopefully, that it may be a bountiful year, and that we may reap a rich harvest, whose shock may be overflowing with grain to be garnered in heaven, and gathered around the great white throne, there to enjoy that life "Prepared from the beginning of the foundation of the world for all the faithful followers of the Lamb."

Proceedings were of the usual routine character and are devoid of special interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$1,406.80, General Fund; \$513.13, Triennial, or Special Fund. Total membership, 1,960, a gain of 213.

The correspondence report is again the literary child of our good brother, Van Winkle, the eighth in regular succession and, like the other seven, is a good one. It covers 118 pages and digests the minutes of forty-one Templar Legislatures, Mississippi, at Biloxi getting three pages of polite and courteous attention. We are glad that he is on our side in opposition to the "Pilgrimage" and "Invasion" Tom-foolery.

R. E. Sir Samuel N. Myers is Grand Commander; E. Sir Francis E. Nichols, Grand Recorder; R. E. Sir W. W. Van Winkle is Chairman of the Correspondence Committee.

WISCONSIN—1904.

The Forty-sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Milwaukee, October 11th. R. E. Sir Robert H. Ormsby, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir William W. Perry, Grand Recorder, with a full array of Grand Officers and a good attendance of the lesser lights.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, well written resume of an uneventful but creditable administration. Much to our regret he takes occasion to eulogize the religious fervor of the early Templars, and, by inference, their piety. What makes us tired is the practice of some people to make a mountain of goodness out of a very small mole hill, when talking about the perfections of the originals of the Order. Because God created the world out of nothing, it does not follow that you can make a saint out of a man as bare of godliness as is the "Greek Slave" of apparel. Quit it! It doesn't pay and there is no sense in it besides. Appropriate mention is made of and tribute paid to the memory of the dead of the Order. He issued quite a number of dispensations but all of them for proper purposes.

The proceedings were mostly routine and of local interest. We find the following, which saddens and afflicts us: "Resolved that the sum of \$100 be appropriated for William C. Swain, our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who, on account of illness, has been unable to render a report for this session." While we very much miss the usual feast

that our brother sets up for his readers, we deeply sympathize with him in his affliction and humbly implore "The Great Physician" to stretch forth His hand, touch and heal our brother, prolong his life and his years as many generations.

The treasury holds a balance, to the good, of \$3,489.36; total membership, 3,527, a gain of 129.

R. E. Sir Charles H. Washburne, is Grand Commander; William W. Perry, Grand Recorder, and Sir Nathan C. Giffin, is Correspondent.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT—1904.

Some time after the closing of our report and after it had been in the "printery" for some time, along comes the pamphlet containing the proceedings of the above-named aggregation. The mechanical execution of the work is all right and shows that the Grand Recorder is the right man in the right place, but when you look through the book for something of interest or benefit to the Order in the deliverances of the Grand Body, you get left and find yourself holding an empty bag. To be sure as a social and display function, the meeting was a success of the grandest kind, but further than that it amounted to absolutely nothing. We were particularly struck with the serene and lofty manner in which the Law Committee, composed of big, nice, Past High Muck-a-Mucks and men grown great in the Order by virtue of rotation in office and the heresy of regular succession, sat down upon, wiped out and buried, out of sight, the amendments sent up from this bailiwick and emanating from the gray matter of "our Fred," and all of them in the direction of needed legislation. This fact however, does not commend itself, apparently, to the good judgment of the committee, or the body itself, possibly because the author of the amendments has, in the past, not hesitated to condemn, in pure and forcible English, the usurpations and encroachments of the central body on the domestic affairs of the State Grand Commandries and their subordinates. It is also possible, if Fred and Mississippi had, in the past, kept up the cry of, "Great is Diana, of the Ephesians" and endorsed the proposition that Jupiter did actually kick the image out of the mythological heavens, the result would have been different. While this idea is not creditable to the central luminary of our Templar system of Astronomy, the fact remains that nothing proposed by Mississippi or the Templars of its obedience, finds favor or attention in the deliberations and deliverances of the Grand Encampment. Mississippi has produced some of the brightest lights in the galaxy of Templary and Masonry, among them Hillyer, Howry, Walter, Cochran, Speed, et als, not including, for modesty's sake, either Enoch or Phineas, and if that measure of attention to the counsel and advice of these had been accorded to them, the Order as well as Masonry would have been the gainers thereby.

We have, in the remote past, had some rather stringent and condemnatory remarks to make in regard to the general worthlessness and

cussedness of the central body, but for several years past we have let up on her, because we thought there were signs of returning sanity, but it seems that we were mistaken and the concern is still determined to devote its time and attention, as well as its power and might to the taking away of the few remaining rights and prerogatives of the Subordinate Commanderies.

If the Grand Encampment would confine itself to the matter of uniformity in the essentials of the ritual, uniform and kindred matters, leaving the matter of by-laws and other purely domestic matters to the good sense and judgment of the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies, it would be much better. There can be no objection to the Triennial blow-out, with its social functions and its magnificent displays, so long as due regard is had to temperance and good morals, as well as the fundamental principles on which the Order stands, but further than this, should they fail to go, no harm would result to the best interests of the Institution.

As the case now stands, our postulants obligate themselves to obey all the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery and the Grand Encampment, while at the same time each Grand Commandery enacts its own laws and these are, frequently in direct conflict with some deliverance of the central body, and the result is that we are perjuring ourselves without rhyme or reason. The Grand Encampment says that so and so is the law in reference to payment of dues, suspension, or what not, for non-payment, etc., while the Grand Commandries adopt their own laws along here and pay no sort of regard to the fulminations of the higher body. While this is all right and suits us, personally, it is not in accord with good morals, hence the necessity of the central body abstaining from interference in matters purely domestic and with which it, properly, has absolutely no right to interfere. We say that this suits us, personally, simply because we have taken no obligation to obey laws subversive of the true principles of the Order and repugnant to common sense, which lets us out in the matter of morality.

The session was honored by the presence of the head of the Order of the Temple, in Great Britain, the Earl of Euston, Supreme Grand Master, together with his staff and a number of jolly, good fellows. Due and proper honor was paid to all of them, and the Earl was elected the first honorary member of the Grand Encampment, which was right and proper. It is exceedingly pleasant to have our cousins, from across the pond drop in and see us, bring their knitting and stay to tea. There is a wide difference between the feeling that now exists between England and this country of ours and that which obtained in the early and later sixties, and we are glad that it is so. The time may come when some one, or more of the continental powers will get too big for their "breeches," when it will be needful to teach them a lesson, in which case the two people, speaking the same language and of the same blood, will, together "take the bat."

We shall ask "Fred" to put a sort of tail on this review, consider-

ing the matter of law and the failure of the Grand Encampment to favorably consider the amendments proposed by him, and we desire to say to any who may suppose that what he writes will be inspired by pique and soreness at the treatment he received, as our mouth piece, that he is too large a man, mentally and intellectually to waste his time in caring for such flea bites as these. Like the writer, he has opinions of his own and the fact that they may run counter to those of others, effects neither his equanimity nor his convictions of what is right or wrong.

"With these few remarks" we close our review of the Grand Encampment and turn the matter over to him to finish. I hope he will give the culprits "Hail Columbia" and that good may result.

R. E. Sir George M. Moulton, is Grand Master; Grand Recorder, as before.

Our Reverend Brother Rugg, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is next in the line of succession, and we are glad.

When the present Constitution and Code of Statutes of the Grand Encampment was adopted, this Grand Commandery abrogated the admirable laws under which it had been governed from its organization and replaced them with the new Code, which had, as it understood the matter, superceded them. There was no thought but that this was clearly what loyalty to the obligations of the Order demanded, but it seems that in this we were mistaken, for by the law of common consent, the laws of the Grand Encampment have been nullified by the several Grand Commanderies, which almost without exception have enacted statutes of their own, containing provisions not in accord with the law of the Grand Encampment. The explanation is not difficult to find. Either the view is taken that the laws of the Grand Encampment are obligatory only upon Commanderies of its own creation or those laws are impossible of execution. I really do not see how there can be any difference of opinion as to applicability of the laws of the Grand Encampment to every Templar and Templar body, and am reluctantly compelled to adopt the latter conclusion. The inevitable deduction is that any setting aside of any of the laws of the Grand Encampment, which every Templar is obligated to maintain as the paramount law of the Order, is nothing more or less than rebellion against its authority. As Brother DeLap says, it is bad morals to continue to impose obligations upon candidates which they are not expected to keep. To my mind it comes very near to subornation of perjury. And knowing that we are not maintaining the constitution and laws of the Grand Encampment when we adopt other laws which are in conflict with them is, to speak mildly, an infraction of Masonic duty, and highly reprehensible. Manifesting the loyalty which it owes to the Grand Encampment, this Grand Commandery has endeavored to comply with strict exactitude with the paramount law.

Unfortunately the Code of the Grand Encampment is not perfect in all respects and contains some provisions which are impossible of execu-

tion and others which are radically defective. To remedy what was considered defective in the Grand Encampment Code, certain amendments were submitted at the Triennial Conclave, but disposed of without a single word of discussion or explanation by the learned committee to whom they were referred. I will not say considered, for there does not appear to have been any consideration of them. Like certain Judges of our courts which find it inconvenient to give opinions, it was easier for the committee to say, "let the motion be overruled."

Of the several amendments proposed at San Francisco, but one seems to have been thought worthy of the attention of the committee, and judging from its fate, it is perhaps fortunate the others were not, for it was so emasculated that, as adopted, it is speaking within bounds to characterize it as meaningless jargon and leaves the matter in a worse attitude than it stood before.

The amendment proposed to limit the term in which a candidate should present himself for the orders or his election became void. For this the committee substituted the following ignominious conclusion:

"Whenever an elected candidate shall fail to present himself for the Orders of Knighthood within sixty days after being notified of favorable action upon his petition, but shall within six months after his election present himself, then the Commandery shall have the right to satisfy itself whether or not there was a reasonable excuse for the delay, and if, in its judgment, a reasonable excuse has not been presented, the election shall be annulled. If he fails to present himself within six months the election shall be annulled."

What if he does not come within sixty days, what then? What figure do the sixty days cut? If at any time within six months he comes forward the Commandery may annul the election if a reasonable excuse is not presented. This, if it means anything, is that if he comes forward within six months, the election may be annulled, but how? by ballot, motion or resolution? If after six months, the election must be annulled, but by what process?

The original proposition was that if the candidate does not present himself until six months have expired his election becomes void. The substitute places it within the power of a Commandery to annul the election if he appears on the next day. It is nonsense to say that, "if he shall within six months after his election present himself." What was probably intended was that if he shall *not* present himself, &c." As a specimen of bungling legislation this is fairly entitled to claim the honors, as the master piece of ambiguity, and it is charitable to say it is rank nonsense. A breeder of disloyalty, for there is not a Commandery on earth which can comprehend it.

We proposed an amendment permitting Grand Commanderies to adopt an abbreviated form of burial service, which was dismissed without even the formality of a benediction and instead of the chaste and elegantly worded Burial Service of which Sir Knight McMurdy was the author, which has been in use for half a century, so far as its extreme

length permitted, and another which is in no respect an improvement, adopted, but which has exactly the same defect which the McMurdy ritual had, that its length is prohibitory. Imagine a Commandery with the mercury at one hundred in the shade or in zero weather, perspiring or freezing, as the case might be, through eleven pages of ceremony, in fine type, after a previous religious service, more or less lengthy, according to the good sense or lack of it, as the case might be, of the officiating clergy. And this does not take into account the harrowed feelings of the widow and children of the poor unfortunate. It is said that there is good in all things and possibly there is in this hour long, or more, as the Prelate and Commander may stretch it out, office for the dead. The one good to come from it will be that no one but an idiot would have it said and sung over his dead body, out of consideration for the living, if for no other reason, and this will force a resort to the only reasonable and sensible service for the burial of a Mason, that of the Craft Lodge.

Another amendment which was summarily disposed of by indefinite postponement, without a word of explanation by the Committee, was one permitting Grand Commanderies to fix the time and penalty for the nonpayment of annual dues. Title 18, not 38, as printed, in the Grand Encampment proceedings, gives to each Commandery the power to disfranchise a member two years in arrears in the payment of his dues, after due trial. This is in conflict with Title 48, which says that a member may be suspended after due notice and an opportunity to be heard in his defense, which also means a trial, if words have any meaning. I will venture saying that not one of the 4,612 Templars who are reported as having been "suspended" by the Grand Recorder, for the nonpayment of dues, during the Triennial period, were proceeded against in such a manner that the most contemptible court of law in the land would sustain it, if the issue were to be presented to it, as it is liable to be at any time—for Commanderies are subject to the law of the land as well as other associations of individuals. The universal ruling of the courts has been that a Society may expel its members, if it proceeds in accordance with its laws, but not otherwise. If it omits a necessary preliminary, its action is simply a nullity.

Another amendment which was consigned to the tomb of the capulets, with scant ceremony, by the Committee, was one which was designed to make intelligible, Title 41 of the Statutes, which makes it necessary for a candidate to give all the signs and "go through all the ceremonies" before he is eligible. Every intelligent Mason knows that there is not one candidate in a thousand, who can comply with this requirement and every Templar violates his obligation every time he participates in conferring the orders—In other words, perjures himself. The amendment proposed to bring this absurd and unreasonable requirement, within practicable limits—but the Committee could not find words to say more than that they recommended that it be not adopted.

And lastly there was an amendment which was designed to remove the necessity for the retiring Commander to be present in person at the

Installation of his successor or his proxy produced, when the Installation is made by *any* past officer. Such a thing has occurred as that when the Installation was to be made by a Past Grand Commander, the Commander who was a doctor, was suddenly called away by a matter of life and death and the whole ceremony had to be declared off, as there was no possibility of securing his presence or his proxy. There is neither rhyme nor reason in the law and to say the least, it should have been relaxed if not entirely wiped out.

I have the most profound respect for the Grand Encampment and its Jurisprudence Committee, and I do not think or say half as many hard things about it, or them, as my good friend, DeLap, but at the same time there seems to be a rule of unreason prevailing in the minds of those who champion a centralization of powers in that body, which has minimized the Grand Commanderies and made them virtually surplus cogs in the Templar machinery or if they assert themselves, as most of them do, make them violaters of a solemn pledge and covenant to which they have assented in a most solemn manner. Some matters are legitimately within the scope of its functions and should be maintained in their integrity, but others legitimately belong to the Grand Commanderies—and at any rate that body ought not to be made into a fetish, to be fallen down before and worshiped. Its laws are man made and when defective or unreasonable should give way to more enlightened legislation; legislation which time and experience has shown to be necessary. But to decline to consider at all, any suggestion of amendment, is unworthy of the intelligence of the body itself and beneath the dignity of those who are appointed to speak for it. I do not hesitate to say that the amendments sent up from Mississippi were reasonable and necessary, having in view the welfare of the Order; they may have been defective in not affording the best remedy for the evils they were intended to cure, but if so, it was the province of the learned committee which failed to consider them, to have devised a better and more effective remedy and not disposed of them by a snap of the finger. That the evils exist is within the comprehension of the feeblest intellect, for they are patent to all who will give the slightest consideration to them. While I trust that I am worthy of the compliment Brother DeLap pays me in saying that in complying with his request to put a "tail" to his review, I am not actuated by pique or soreness, it ought at the same time to be understood that I am not overawed by the grandeur and dignity of the National body itself or deterred from speaking words which ought to be said, in view of the lame and impotent action of the friends I had on the committee, some of whom are the dearest I have on earth and for whom I entertain the most profound respect and sincerest affection.

FREDERIC SPEED.

CONCLUSION.

Having finished the work assigned us, we submit it for your inspection. Those of you who have sufficient interest in the legislative deliverances of the Order, at large, will, no doubt, read and be profited by it. The other fellows don't count and we won't worry about them.

There is not a ripple of strife disturbing the Templar family, nor is there a single thing to quarrel about, which will account for the absence of that lurid coloring that, occasionally, creeps in to these reports.

The recent Presidential election has developed the most prolific and remarkable lot of liars that our memory recalls, but the matter is settled for the next four years, and settled as God would have it settled, hence there is no disposition on our part to kick, or grumble. That the destinies of ours are in the hands of Him who putteth down one and setteth up another, and Who rules in the councils of men and doeth as to Him appears best.

The Order seems to be prosperous everywhere, and is growing in numbers at a surprising rate, all of which is pleasant, provided the material worked up is such as it should be in an Institution such as ours.

With an earnest prayer for God's blessing to abide on each of you and your's, and for the prosperity, glory and greatness of the Order in all lands. I beg to remain,

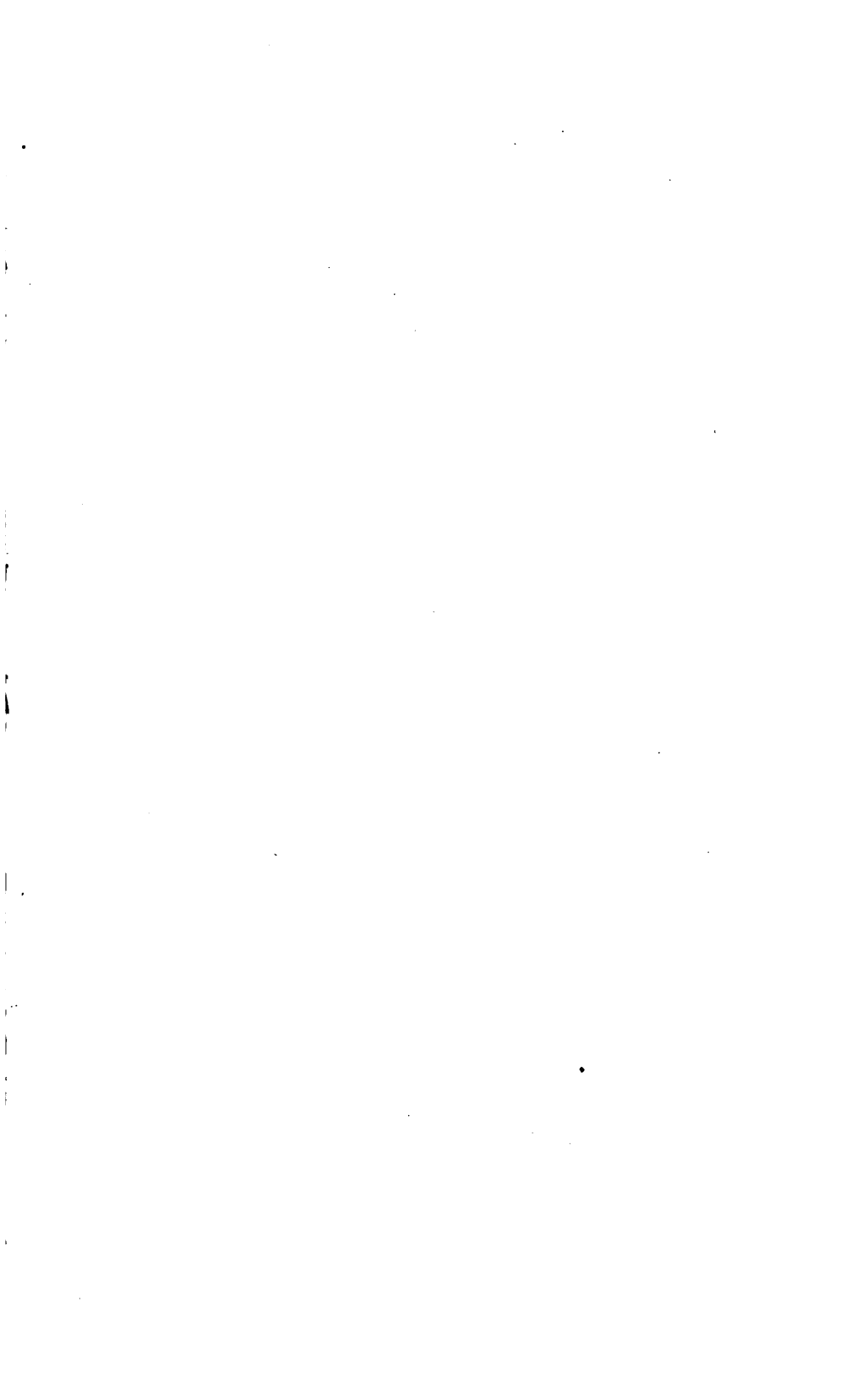
Courteously and sincerely yours,

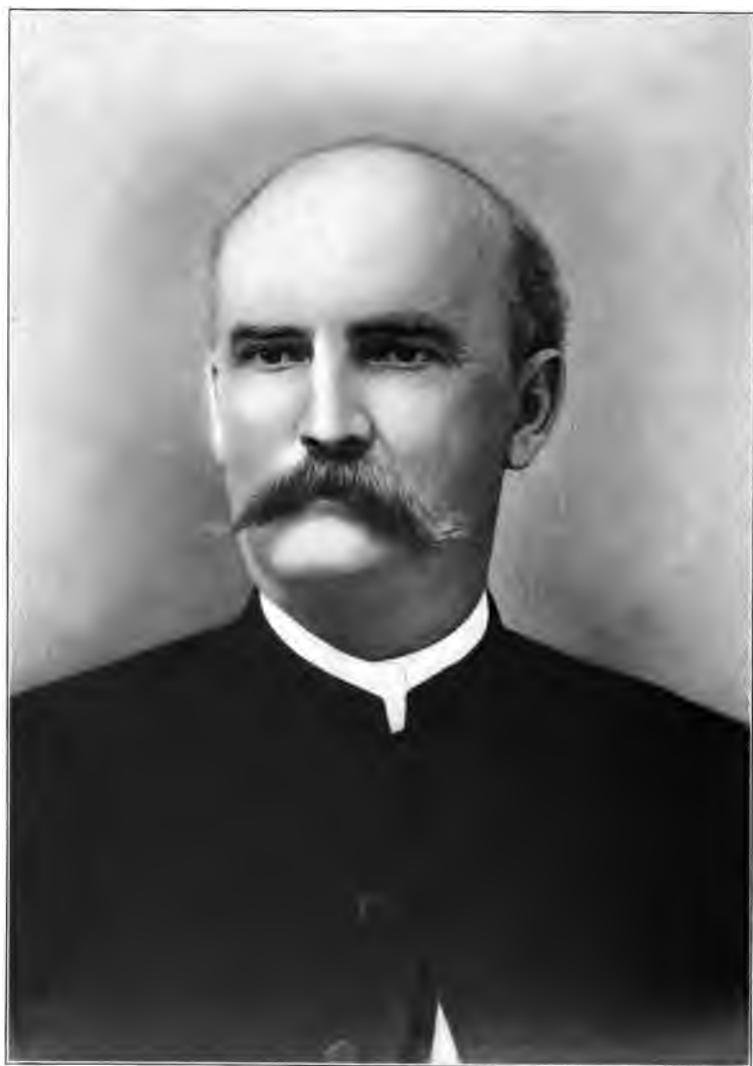
E. G. DeLAP.

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*Yours truly & fraternally
Det. B. Waddell*

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FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,

IN THE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,

HELD AT

Brookhaven, February 24, 1906.

**VICKSBURG, MISS.
MISSISSIPPI PRINTING CO.**

Grand Officers 1906-07.

GRAND COMMANDER	- - - -	DeB. WADDELL, Meridian.
DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER	- -	GEORGE C. MYERS, Jackson.
GRAND GENERALISSIMO	- - -	NOLAN STEWART, Jackson.
GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL	-	GEORGE C. HOSKINS, Brookhaven.
GRAND PRELATE	- - - -	JOSEPH J. BROOKS, Benoit.
GRAND TREASURER	- - - -	GUS. J. BAHIN, Natchez.
GRAND RECORDER	- - -	FREDERIC SPEED, Vicksburg.
SENIOR GRAND WARDEN	-	GARLAND D. BROWN, Water Valley.
JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN	- -	JOHN S. BROOKS, Robinsonville.
GRAND STANDARD BEARER	-	E. ERNEST CLEMENT, Ocean Springs.
GRAND SWORD BEARER	- - -	EDWIN J. MARTIN, Meridian.
GRAND WARDER	- - -	ROBERT A. STIGLER, Lexington.

Committees.

TEMPLAR LAW.—Phineas M. Savery, P.G.C., Tupelo; Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Meridian; William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C., Okolona.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.

The Forty-Seventh Annual Conclave will be held at Natchez, on the Fourth Friday of February, 1907.

Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN MISSISSIPPI, convened in its Forty-sixth Annual Conclave in the Asylum of Saint Elmo Commandery, in the City of Brookhaven, on Friday, February 24th., 1906, at 10 o'clock A. M., there being present -

Grand Officers.

Right Eminent Sir JOHN FOGGO DIXON.....Grand Commander.
Eminent Sir DEB. WADDELL.....Deputy Grand Commander.
Eminent Sir GEORGE C. MYERS.....Grand Generalissimo.
Eminent Sir WILLIAM A. STANTON.....as Grand Captain General.
Eminent Sir GEORGE C. HOSKINS.....Grand Senior Warden.
Eminent Sir GARLAND D. BROWN.....Grand Junior Warden.
Eminent Sir JOHN R. CARTER.....Grand Prelate.
Eminent Sir GUS J. BAHIN.....Grand Treasurer.
Right Eminent Sir FREDERIC SPEED.....Grand Recorder.
Eminent Sir JOHN S. BROOKS.....Grand Standard Bearer.
Eminent Sir E. ERNEST CLEMENT.....Grand Sword Bearer.
Eminent Sir ZEBULON P. JONES.....Grand Sentinel.

Past Grand Officers.

R. E. ENOCH GEORGE DELAP.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. PHINEAS M. SAVERY.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. WILLIAM G. BENBROOK.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. WILLIAM A. BODENHAMER.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JAMES C. FRENCH.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JAMES T. HARRISON.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN S. COBB.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN A. B. JONES.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. Harry T. HOWARD.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. OLIVER LEE MCKAY.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. ROBERT HIRAM HENRY.....Past Grand Commander.

Standing Committees.

TEMPLAR LAW—Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Chairman; William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.; Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.

Grand Representatives.

ARKANSAS.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
COLORADO.....	George S. Hunter, P.E.C.
CONNECTICUT.....	Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....	Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.
GEORGIA.....	James C. French, P.G.C.
INDIANA.....	Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.
IOWA.....	Frederic Speed, P.G.C.
KANSAS.....	William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
LOUISIANA.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.....	John S. Cobb, P.G.C.
MISSOURI.....	M. L. Stigler, P.E.C.
Montana.....	DeB. Waddell, G.C.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Benjamin V. White, P.E.C.
NEW JERSEY.....	E. Ernest Clement, P.E.C.
NEW MEXICO.....	Thomas B. Franklin, P.E.C.
NEW YORK.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
OHIO.....	John A. B. Jones, P.G.C.
OREGON.....	George C. Myers, D.G.C.
PENNSYLVANIA.....	Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.
TENNESSEE.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
TEXAS.....	Gus J. Bahin, H.P.G.C.
VIRGINIA.....	William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
WEST VIRGINIA.....	William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.

Also present, the representatives of nineteen Commanderies and a large number of visiting Templars.

Opening.

The Grand Commandery was opened by the Grand Commander in AMPLE FORM, the Grand Prelate leading in the devotions.

Committee on Credentials.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander appointed Sir Knights James C. French, William A. Stanton, and Wiley H. Clifton as a Committee on Credentials, who presently submitted a report as follows: which was on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, The Grand Commandery:

The Committee on Credentials courteously beg leave to report that they find the following Officers, Representatives of Commanderies and Past Eminent Commanders present and entitled to seats in the Grand Commandery:

GRAND OFFICERS.

John Foggo Dixon, Grand Commander.
 DeB. Waddell, Deputy Grand Commander.
 George C. Myers, Grand Generalissimo.
 George C. Hoskins, Senior Grand Warden.
 Garland D. Brown, Junior Grand Warden.
 John R. Carter, Grand Prelate.
 Gus J. Bahin, Grand Treasurer.
 Frederic Speed, Grand Recorder.
 John S. Brooks, Grand Standard Bearer.
 E. Ernest Clement, Grand Sword Bearer.
 Edwin J. Martin, Grand Warder.

COMMITTEES.

TEMPLAR LAW—Harry T. Howard, William A. Bodenhamer, Oliver Lee McKay.

CORRESPONDENCE—Enoch George DeLap.

REPRESENTATIVES.

ABERDEEN—William Kimmel, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 COAHOMA—John S. Brooks, Eminent Commander.
 CYRENE—J. W. Hagenmeyer, Eminent Commander.
 DEMOLAY—D. Stewart McClanahan, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 DELTA—W. T. Steger, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 EDWARDS—James Bryan Foster, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 GREENWOOD—Not Represented.
 HATTIESBURG—S. J. Pettigrew, Eminent Commander.
 HOLLY SPRINGS—M. H. Leach, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 IVANHOE—N. A. Love, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 LEXINGTON—T. W. Smith, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 MACON—Not Represented.
 MAGNOLIA—William A. Stanton, Eminent Commander.
 MISSISSIPPI—George B. Power, Eminent Commander.
 ROSALIE—James C. French, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 MARY SAVERY—W. W. Fitzgerald, Eminent Commander.
 ST. CYR—Robert W. Hellums, Eminent Commander.
 ST. ELMO—John E. Seavey, Eminent Commander.
 THE COAST—J. C. Bradford, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
 WEST POINT—William Johnson, Eminent Commander.
 YAZOO—J. Barnett Ellis, Eminent Commander.

PAST GRAND COMMANDERS.

Phineas M. Savery, William G. Benbrook, James T. Harrison, John A. B. Jones, Oliver Lee McKay, John S. Cobb, William A. Bodenhamer, Harry T. Howard, Robert Hiram Henry, E. George DeLap, James C. French, Gus J. Bahin (Honorary).

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

Edwin J. Martin, Benjamin V. White, H. F. Broach, Jr., Cyrene; W. B. Taylor, Mississippi; Robert A. Stigler, Lexington; George S. Hunter, Edwards; Wiley H. Clifton, Aberdeen; C. E. Romberger, G. D. Brown, St. Cyr; George C. Myers, Holly Springs; W. H. Seavey, St. Elmo; J. J. White, Mississippi; L. A. Benoist, Rosalie; J. A. Webb, Mississippi; J. S. Brooks, Coahoma; J. B. Foster, Edwards; E. E. Clement, The Coast; Eugene McCormick, St. Elmo.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

ARKANSAS—Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
 COLORADO—George S. Hunter, P.E.C.
 CONNECTICUT—Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.
 GEORGIA—James C. French, P.G.C.
 INDIANA—Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.
 IOWA—Federic Speed, P.G.C.
 KANSAS—William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
 LOUISIANA—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
 MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—John S. Cobb, P.G.C.
 MISSOURI—M. L. Stigler, P.E.C.
 MONTANA—DeB. Waddell, P.G.C.
 NEW HAMPSHIRE—Benjamin V. White, P.E.C.
 NEW JERSEY—E. Ernest Clement, P.E.C.
 NEW MEXICO—Thomas B. Franklin, P.E.C.
 NEW YORK—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
 OHIO—John A. B. Jones, P.G.C.
 OREGON—George C. Myers, D.P.G.C.
 PENNSYLVANIA—Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.
 TENNESSEE—Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.
 TEXAS—Gus J. Bahin, P.G.C.
 VIRGINIA—William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
 WEST VIRGINIA—William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.

Courteously submitted,

J. C. FRENCH,
 W. A. STANTON,
 WILEY H. CLIFTON,
 Committee.

Regrets.

The Grand Recorder laid before the Grand Commandery the following telegram:

JACKSON, Miss., February 22.

To Hon. Fred. Speed, Brookhaven :

Express my regret to Grand Commandery that sickness prevents my attendance, also best wishes for successful meeting.

NOLAN STEWART.

Which was received and ordered filed and the best wishes of the Grand Commandery for the speedy recovery of Eminent Sir Stewart ordered to be telegraphed to him.

Devotional Office.

The lines were then formed and the Grand Commandery proceeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, where the full devotional office was said, led by the Grand Prelate and assisted by a volunteer choir of ladies and gentlemen who sang the anthems and hymns.

At the conclusion of the Devotional Office the Grand Prelate preached the following :

Sermon.

EXODUS XVII, 15TH. VERSE.—“JEHOVAH NISSI.”

The Hebrew form of these words constituted the inscription on an altar built by Moses in the Valley of Rephidim, for the commemoration of a mighty victory, and a sign that Jehovah would have war with Amalek forever.

Joshua had discomfited that savage enemy with the sword, and Moses, attributing this grand deliverance to the hand of God, thus expresses the common sentiment of a grateful people.

The name which he inscribed upon the front of the sacred structure was, “Jehovah Nissi,” or “Jehovah My Banner,”—evidently meaning that this most august name of the mighty God, imparting absolute eternity, independency, and immutability, is the true standard under which His saints achieve all their victories.

Each of the Pharaohs, we are told, on his accession to the throne of Egypt, in addition to his official title, adopted a new name which was emblazoned upon the banners of his host.

The Assyrian Monarchs also, and later the Persians, the Greeks and Romans followed the same custom; and the royal name, or monogram, adorned the ensign borne in the van of battle.

So Moses now ordains a motto for the army of Israel, and what motto could be more suitable for Christ's militant host to-day?

Sir Knight's, we are all marching under the same banner, our aims are the same, our prayers go up to the same common Father, and we are all hoping for the same blissful immortality.

Our order and the Church of the living God are soldiers of a common cause. Warring with a mightier than Amalek, whose name but Christ's shall illuminate our ensigns, and constitute our watch-word and our battle-cry?

Contending with the powers of darkness for the thrones of heaven, whose skill but His shall lead us; whose arm protect us; whose strength sustain us; whose blessing crown the victory at last?

Glorious in our front marches the Knight Banneret of our salvation, “treading our enemies in His anger, and trampling them in His fury.”

“He hath given a banner to them that fear Him, that it may be displayed because of the truth.”—[Ps. 60, 4.]

The banner of faith, inscribed with eternal verities. The banner of peace, offering the free amnesty of heaven. The banner of joy, proclaiming the gladdest tidings that ever fell on mortal ears.

The banner of power, breaking up the revel of demons in the human heart, and chasing the hosts of darkness back to their gloomy habitation.

The banner of righteousness, restoring to humanity wherever it triumphs, the lost image of its Maker, and inscribing all its conquests in heaven and earth with, “Holliness to the Lord.” The banner under which the glorious Company of the Apostles marched; the goodly fellowship of the prophets, and ancient Templars fought, and the noble army of martyrs triumphed.—That banner, beloved Sir Knights, I now unfurl.

“ See on the mountain top,
The standard of thy God ;
In Jesus’ name I lift it up,
All stained with hallowed blood.”

The banner proclaims a cause. When it waves there is a government to be sustained. The cause indicated by our Templar banner is the Kingdom of Immanuel: the cause to which Israel warring against Amalek was a historical type, and a pregnant prophecy.

Then the banner leads to battle. The ancient Templar followed it as his guide in the march, and in the conflict.

The faithful in Christ are all soldiers of the Cross engaged in the good fight of faith. Contending for the precious trust once delivered to the Saints by the Captain of our salvation.

Having sworn allegiance, at our altars, to the King of Kings, and the Lord of lords, we are pledged to support His Cause and Kingdom against all the powers of evil.

“ And wheresoe’er on earth’s wide field,
We lift for Him the Red Cross shield,
Be this our song, our joy and pride,
Our Captain went before and died.”

Again, the banner inspires courage. The Lion upon Judah’s standard fired the heart of the Jewish warrior. The Eagle upon the Roman ensign kindled the martial enthusiasm of the imperial legions, and the Cross upon the Labarum of Constantine made every man in his host a hero.

Brave as Moses before Pharoah; Elijah before Ahab; St. John before Herod; St. Paul before Nero, fearing none but God and sustained by the love of Christ, the Soldiers of the Cross shall push the battle to the gates of hell, and wave His crimson ensign in defiance of all its marshalled fury.

Christ our banner has conquered for us, and we through his precious blood are more than conquerors.

Jehovah vanquished Amalek for Israel; Jesus Christ has vanquished sin and death for us.

The Emperor Diocletian, imagining he had exterminated the Christians, reared a monument to commemorate his success; but ten years afterwards the system he thought to overthrow became the recognized religion of the Roman Empire.

Voltaire said he was weary of hearing that twelve men had established Christianity, but he would show that one man was sufficient to overthrow it.

But Voltaire expired, alternately imploring and blaspheming the victorious Nazarine, and the press on which he printed the menace was afterwards employed printing bibles. Is not our banner worthy of our utmost devotion and valor in view of what it represents?

If the Roman thought his ensign the most sacred thing he could swear by, how should we regard the banner of the Cross?

If flags have been torn by shot and shell, and every fragment has been gathered and treasured as a holy thing by the surviving comrades of those who defended them to the last of their blood and their breath, what efforts should we not make in behalf of the glorious cause for which so many heroes have fought and so many martyrs have bled? If maidens and matrons in excess of patriotic enthusiasm, have seized the floating symbol of the cause they loved and pressed it to the warm heart and ruby lips, baptising it with tears, what demonstration should we give of our attachment to that glorious name which our banner represents, and which contains at once the record of our redemption and the assurance of our immortality.

Oh! let the sinner be ashamed of his sin, and let unbelief hang down its coward head in confusion, but we must not be ashamed of the Cross of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation.

A splendid vision rises before me, I see the sacramental host of Christ's militant Ecclesia marching through the ages to her millennial rest. She moves in several columns under different captains, but high over all, in front streams the pennon of her Knight Barronet—the Lord of Hosts.

What proud insignia of court or camp, what pomp of imperial heraldry shall be brought into competition with its divine excellence and transcendent beauty? Banners there have been "as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold," ensigns armorial fraught with all the splendor that royal wealth and artistic skill could give, but all the blended effulgence of earthly power, all the brilliant conceptions of human genius must fall infinitely short of the glory of God and the Lamb which constitutes the Christian Templar's banner.

Scarred in fiercer strife and crimsoned with richer gore, it shall float in the van of the mighty procession when "the ransomed of the Lord" shall return and come unto Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads."

"Jehovah my banner." From eternity it lay folded in the armory of Heaven, and the first born son of Immortality gave it reverent homage as the pledge of Messianic Theocracy on earth.

First unfolded to Adam in Eden, it waved over the bloody altar of Abel, enveloped Enoch as he ascended unsmitten of the mortal shaft, and spanned with prophetic beauty the retiring waters of the deluge.

Moses raised it in the wilderness, and the perishing thousands looked and lived; David sang its victories, and "his harp grew mightier than his throne," and sent living hallelujahs down the ages. Elijah wrapped himself in its crimson folds, and drove his steeds of flame over the everlasting hills and through the pearl-gates of the City of God.

Catching a glimpse of it from his cross the eye of the expiring malefactor brightened with a strange hope, and faith imparadised his departing soul in the very jaws of hades.

Symboled in fire upon the sky, Constantine beheld it, and drove Maxentines with all the hopes of paganism headlong into the Tiber.

Planted on Calvary two thousand years ago, it still floats over the

faithful, and will continue to float until the last foe shall utter the despairing cry of the dying apostate; "O, Galilean, Thou has conquered."

The monarch may glory in his crown; the miser in his gold; the artist in his genius; the poet in his fancy; and the orator in his eloquence; "but God forbid that we should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Amen.

The Sermon ended, Sir Knight Frederic Speed made an appeal for the orphans at the Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum and one hundred dollars were placed upon the altar, as the offering of the Grand Commandery for this purpose.

The lines were again formed and the Grand Commandery returned to the Asylum and was adjourned until half past two o'clock this afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half past two o'clock P.M. the Grand Commandery resumed its session, the officers and members being present as at the morning session.

Address.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander addressed the Grand Commandery as follows:

Sir Knights:

Through the infinite and unchanging mercy of God, we are once more permitted to assemble in annual conclave, and to Him our hearts should swell with peans of praise and gratitude for the many, yea the multitude of blessings that have filled the hours of each day as it has come and gone. We are too apt, amid the cares and trials of life, to lose sight of the mercies and favors of God, which so richly permeate and mix with those same trials. In other words, we are too much like the Psalmist, who was honest enough to say: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee," forgetting that through all the changing scenes of life, amid its joys as well as amid its sorrows, we should remember God; remember that each and every blessing that comes to us, comes direct from His

hand, and that no evil is permitted to assail us but for some wise purpose of the Divine Mind.

The year has been a somewhat remarkable one, in many respects. Sunshine and storm have passed over us, the latter predominating, in some sections of the State, to such an extent as to curtail the harvest and disappoint the hopes of the husbandman, while disease, in its most dreaded form, has invaded some parts of our Commonwealth. These facts however, in no wise detract from the assumption of the goodness of God to us. Job recognized this fact, in his sore affliction, when he told his complaining wife that it is not proper for us to expect all good and no evil. Were such the case, this world would be such a happy place that men would make no effort to secure an entrance into that "upper and better country," where the Captain of our salvation awaits us, after "life's fitful fever has passed away."

My administration of the affairs of the Grand Commandery have been uneventful and devoid of incident out of the usual course. My acts and deliverances have been along ordinary lines and peace, harmony and a large measure of prosperity and growth is apparent in most of the commanderies.

I have made no decisions, or constructions of law, none having been asked for. I have been asked for several dispensations to receive and act upon petitions without delay, but as I understand the law of the Grand Encampment, on this subject, I could not grant the requests, much as I regretted my inability to do so. While I am satisfied that the law referred to is neither wise nor proper, and is a gross invasion of the prerogatives of the Grand Commanderies, to which bodies these matters properly belong, yet so long as we own the authority of the Grand Encampment as being supreme, and so long as Grand Commanders solemnly obligate themselves to obey and enforce its laws, I could not see my way clear to set aside, by dispensation, what that Body says must not be set aside. I am aware that my predecessors, in this Jurisdiction, have not hesitated to use the dispensing power, and while I find no fault with them for such action, they being equally honest with my-self, I did not feel that I had the right, hence would not exercise it.

On November 15th., I received a letter from Sir Knight W. H. Whittaker, asking for the restoration of the charter of Grenada Commandery, but, after considerable correspondence I learned that there are not a sufficient number of the members of the old commandery available to reorganize, and as the law of the Grand Encampment, on this subject, is very plain, I was compelled to refuse the application. The law is as follows:

"A charter, arrested or surrendered, cannot be used to form a new commandery, but may be restored to former members, in good standing, who are unaffiliated, by vote of the Grand Encampment, or Grand Commandery." Statutes, Title 12, Section, 9.

"No dispensation by Grand Commander without recommendation of the Commandery nearest. Paragraph, 5, Sec. 8, Art. 2, Constitution, page, 26."

But it may be done by the Grand Commandery. Paragraph 7, Section 6, Article II Constitution, page 25.

Under the law just quoted, it is within the province of the grand Commandery, to accomodate these brethren, and I leave it in your hands.

On April 26th. I received a communication from a committee from Lexington Commandery, advising me that sundry Sir Knights of the late Commandery at Durant, had asked that Commandery (Lexington) for its recommendation of their petition to reorganize said Durant Commandery and that they had, unanimously, refused to do so, for the reasons following: 1st. Should a Commandery be established at Durant, the jurisdiction of Lexington Commandery No. 3 would thereby become so limited that it is extremely doubtful if the same could, thereafter, be successfully maintained. 2nd. For the same reasons, it is extremely doubtful whether a Commandery could be maintained at Durant.

It is possible that this matter may be brought to your attention, and, if so, I suggest that it will be wise for you to exercise considerable vigilance in the investigation of all the facts. Too many Commanderies is worse than too few. No Commandery can long exist without something to feed on, and the supply of Royal Arch Masons in some sections of Mississippi is not remarkably large.

Death has invaded our ranks and taken away Past Grand Commander John Kidder Fulson, who departed this life on the 10th. day of July, after a long and tedious illness, in the 76th. year of his age. He was our Senior Past Grand Commander and a most zealous and faithful Knight. On receiving notice of his death the following announcement was made:

GRAND COMMANDERY OF MISSISSIPPI, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

After a long and tedious illness, as the sun was sinking behind the western clouds, on the evening of the tenth day of July last, the angel of death came and took from the brethren and friends who loved him so well, our senior Past Grand Commander

JOHN KIDDER FULSON,

and broke a link in the chain which bound us to the past, a past fraught with precious memories. Two only of the glorious companionship which composed the Grand Commandery over which he presided in 1870, remain with us, and they are well stricken in years—and the words which he spoke in his address, coming to us as they do, from the pale cold lips of the dead, gain added force—"How many, he said, are there here assembled, who realize that they are one year nearer to the day of Judgment, when the Supreme Grand Commander will decide whether we have lived up to and discharged our obligations as Templars." We know that at least he did and so lived that he had ever before him the warning he then gave, "remember we can do nothing of ourselves, unless assisted by our Divine Master, to whom every word, act and thought are known."

Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., July 11th, 1829, he had lived long and well and performed with painstaking care the responsibilities and duties which fell to him in the station in life in which it pleased God to call him. A man of energy and strong character, true and devoted to his family and friends and to the community in which he lived, and proud in his old age of the

honor and distinction which he had earned by valuable service rendered to his country, when at eighteen he entered the army during the war with Mexico. He died as he had lived, a plain, unostentatious man who never pushed himself forward but was content to serve anywhere there was work for his busy hands to do, satisfied with the reward which came to him in the knowledge that he enjoyed the respect and esteem of his friends, neighbors and brethren.

Our Frater was twice married, his first wife being Miss Martha Jane Earp of Panola county, and his second Mrs. Emma Jane Bowden of Norfolk, Va., who with three sons and a daughter, survive him.

We do not know when or in what Lodge he was initiated, but he was Raised in South Memphis Lodge May 26th, 1859, from which he dimitted in 1861. He was exalted in Penn Chapter of Memphis, December 20th, 1859. He afterwards dimitted and affiliated with Grenada Chapter of which he was High Priest in 1865, and removing to Water Valley again dimitted and his name appears as one of those to whom the dispensation for A. J. McConico Chapter of Water Valley was granted June 8th, 1867.

In 1866 he was Master of Ceremonies of W. H. Stevens Council of Grenada, and it is presumed he received the Royal and Select Master's degrees in that Council, but the record having been lost it cannot now definitely be ascertained. He afterwards dimitted and became a member of Water Valley Council which he served as thrice Puissant Master.

Knighted in Lexington Commandery in 1865, he was the first Eminent Commander of Grenada Commandery at Grenada in 1866, and afterwards when it was removed to Water Valley and its name changed to St. Cyr, served it in that and in numerous other capacities.

Entering the Grand Commandery in 1867 he was elected Senior Grand Warden, Grand Generalissimo in 1868 and Grand Commander in 1869.

He was also a Mason of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in which he had attained to the 32nd degree.

He was one of those who loving the Lord Jesus Christ and being in peace and charity with his neighbors, was long a communicant of the Episcopal Church and zealous in advancing its interests, having faithfully served as a veseryman and warden of his parish and as a delegate in its councils, and at last she took up his poor wasted remains and committed them to mother earth with her solemn rites, in an abiding confidence that when the Master comes he will rise again to the life immortal and receive the white stone with a new name written.

That we may show our respect for his name and fame as a wise and accomplished Freemason and our love for the man, let our standards be draped in mourning and this announcement be read at the head of the lines in each of our Commaderies.

By order of

J. FOGGO DIXON,
Grand Commander.

FREDERIC SPEED,
Grand Recorder.

VICKSBURG, September 22, 1905.

Franklin P. Jenkins, another of our Past Grand Commanders, died suddenly April 10, 1905. Although he had long been a most active and useful member of the Craft, I have been able to procure but the most meagure particulars of his life. He was born in Columbus in June, 1857, but had lived in Aberdeen for the last fifteen years, where he was active in business, being at the time of his death the President of the First National Bank. He was a licensed minister of the Methodist Church and active in every good work. Every one knew and honored Frank Jenkins, but that's

the sum and substance of all the biographical particulars I have been able to obtain. True, it is a whole biography in itself, for the man every one honors and respects, must have led a good and correct life and more need not be said of any one.

I have commissioned several brethren as our representatives in other States and recommended several of our members for like appointments near our "Grand East." As these matters will be referred to and names given in the Grand Recorder's report, I deem it unnecessary for me to go into particulars in this place.

Our Representative near the Grand Commandery of Virginia favored me with a communication enclosing the following sentiment; addressed to Right Eminent Sir J. Foggo Dixon, Grand Commander and Fraters of Mississippi:

May the observance of this day, full of good cheer and joy, lead us to higher appreciation and practice of the principles of true christian knight-hood.

(Signed) CHARLES E. BORST, G. R. Miss, etc.

We are not ungrateful for this evidence of activity in the ranks of those ornamental if not useful appendages of the Order, known as Grand Representatives.

I promulgated the Christmas Greetings in the following circular:

GRAND COMMANDERY OF MISSISSIPPI, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

While our hearts are mellowed with grateful thanks to our Our Father who art in Heaven, for throwing the sheltering arms of His love around the people of this State during the season of trial and anxiety through which we have just passed, and in withholding the plague from our homes, we are reminded by the approaching holiday season of the greater manifestation of His loving kindness, which came to all men, when the herald angels sang on the Judean hills;

Glory to the new born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.

The Grand Commander sends to all the brethren of the Temple,

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS,

wishing to each and all health, peace and plenty and invites them to assemble on Monday, December 25th, and unite with all the Templars of the land, in the Christmas Observance of the Grand Eucampment, in the following sentiments:

To our Most Eminent Grand Master George M. Moulton:

A Merry Christmas with health and prosperity to all the goodly fellowship of the Cross,

To which the Grand Master sends the following response :

To all the loyal and loving soldiers of Christ enlisted under the banner of our Order, wheresoever dispersed throughout the world :

Peace and that contentment which cometh from a firm and unfaltering reliance upon Our Father who art in Heaven.

And, that our Christmas Cheer may be brightened by their presence, let us invite the women, who were last at the cross and first at the grave, to unite with us and a glad Christmas make with them.

FREDERIC SPEED,
Grand Recorder.

J. FOGGO DIXON,
Grand Commander

VICKSBURG, November 20th, 1905.

I have received a number of invitations to visit our Subordinate, as well as Grand Commanderies, but business engagements and the embargo laid upon travel by the yellow fever situation in the summer, I have been unable to accept any of these courtesies, much as I would have enjoyed doing so. I desire, however, to record here my thanks, as well as my regrets.

I have received a very interesting and courteous letter from the Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of New York in response to our official notice of the death of our late and beloved Senior Past Grand Commander, Sir John K. Fulsom, which I submit herewith marked "A", and suggest that it be published in the proceedings. Also a letter from our Grand Representative near the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, and I make the same suggestion in regard to it. It is attached hereunto marked "B."

Sir Arthur McArthur, Chairman of the Triennial Committee of the Grand Commandery of New York, sends to me with the usual courtesy which characterizes that elegant gentleman, a letter informing me that his committee had arranged for hotel accommodations for the headquarters of all the Grand Commanderies under one roof but the reservation expired January 1st last. As the action of the Grand Commandery last year extended only to making provision for the expenses of the "principal officers" at the next Triennial of the Grand Encampment and did not provide for a committee to secure headquarters or make other arrangements, I was unable to take advantage of the opportunity offered to secure quarters and as the "principal officers" for whose expenses provision has been made will not be elected until next year, there was nothing that I could do; the matter therefore is open for your consideration.

In returning to you the emblem of authority, placed in my hands one year ago, I desire to express my grateful appreciation of the many acts of courtesy and kindness received by me, from the Sir Knights of your obedience, as well as the official heads of Sister Jurisdictions. I am particularly beholden to our efficient, learned and beloved Grand Recorder, Fred-
eric Speed, more familiarly known as "Our Fred" for valued help and

appreciated assistance. As a Grand Recorder, he has no equal and few superiors.

I am not unmindful of the honor you saw fit to confer upon me, and have endeavored to discharge the duties of the office to the best of my ability. If I have done so to your satisfaction, I am glad; if I have failed, I regret it deeply.

With best wishes for the personal prosperity and happiness of each of you, and the healthy growth and expansion of our beloved Order in all lands, I remain,

JOHN FOGGO DIXON,
Grand Commander.

GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, STATE OF NEW YORK.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., December 16, 1905.

To R. E. J. Foggo Dixon, Grand Commander.

DEAR SIR AND FRATER:—The Grand Commandery of New York sends her deepest sympathy to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi as it stands in the midst of that clond of separation—which we call death. There is much in the snapping of the link of the templar chain when a Grand Commander bows low before the authoritative summons to “go hence and be no more seen.” There is even more when the *Senior* Grand Commander gasps his last—“Goodbye”—until the eternal morn of welcome. The tribute which you have paid him in your official announcement of his death is one which carries with it more honor than office or station of any sort. To *serve* well is divine: for the Almighty Grand Commander Himself deigns to serve, as did His blessed Son, the Knight Templar's King. But your loss is, after all, the placing of a treasure in a haven of safety, to be tended and watched by the loving care of that King. To the memory of Brother and Right Eminent Frater, John Kidder Fulson, our Grand Commandery sends its, “God be with him and you!”

My own interest was deeply stirred to know that he was a churchman, and born in the City of my own birth.

With great sympathy and Knightly salutations.

Very courteously yours,
WARREN C. HUBBARD,
Grand Prelate.

GRAND COMMANDERY, KENTUCKY.

OFFICE OF GRAND RECORDER.
COVINGTON, KY., September 6th. 1905.

J. F. Dixon, Esq., Grand Commander, Knights Templar, Natchez, Miss.

RIGHT EMINENT SIR AND DEAR FRATER:—I am to-day mailing you a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, 1905. As you will note, page 68, on the roll call of Grand Representatives, and reception by the Grand Commander, he requested each to communicate with the Grand Commander of the Jurisdiction he represented, conveying the Knightly greetings of the Grand Commander and this Grand Commandery. As Representative of the Grand Commandery of Mississippi in this Jurisdiction I take great pleasure in complying with his request and extend to you the Knightly and courteous greetings of the Grand Commandery and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, adding thereto the

most sincere wishes for your personal welfare and the success of your year as Grand Commander.

With assurances of Knightly regards, I remain,
 Courteously yours,
 A. H. BRYANT,
 Grand Recorder, Grand Representative,
 Grand Commandery, Mississippi.

Reference of Address.

The Very Eminent, the Deputy Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights Howard, Henry and Jones to apportion the Grand Commander's address for reference to Committees, who presently submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your Special Committee charged with the duty of apportioning the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, with a view to its apportionment to committees, courteously recommend:

1. That so much as relates to Necrology, be referred to a Special Committee of three.
2. So much as relates to Dispensations to the Committee on Templar Law.
3. So much as relates to Grand Representatives to a Special Committee of three.
4. So much as relates to the Triennial Conclave to a Special Committee of five.

Courteously submitted,
 HARRY T. HOWARD,
 R. H. HENRY,
 J. A. B. JONES,
 Committee.

Appointment of Committees.

The Very Eminent, the Deputy Grand Commander, appointed the following Committees pursuant to the foregoing report:

1. NECROLOGY—Sir Knights Jones, French and Webb.
2. GRAND REPRESENTATIVES—Sir Knights Broach, Waddell and Steigler.
3. TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE—Sir Knights Martin, Bryd, Bradford, J. J. White and Heuck.

Petitions for New Commanderles.

The Grand Recorder laid before Grand Commandery the petitions of the requisite number of Knights Templar for Dispensations for new Commanderles at Newton and Grenada, which were, on motion, received and referred to a Special Committee consisting of Sir Knights B. V. White, L. A. Benoist, W. T. Steger, R. H. Henry and J. J. Brooks.

Finance Committee.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights J. E. Seavey, George B. Power and James C. French a Committee on Finance.

Grand Recorder's Report.

The Grand Recorder presented his Annual Report as follows, which was, on motion, referred to the Finance Committee :

FREDERIC SPEED, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND COMMANDERY :**ACCOUNT CURRENT.****DEBIT.**

1905.		
February 21st.	Collection for Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum	\$ 64 06
1906		
February 10th.	Dues 1904 which were not paid until after February 10th, 1905.....	656 56
February 10th.	Dues 1905 which were paid before February 10th.	1,396 00
		<hr/>
		\$2,116 62

CREDIT.

1905.		
February 21st.	Remitted Grand Trésurer.....	\$ 64 06
November 13th.	Remitted Grand Treasurer.....	656 56
1906.		
February 10th.	Remitted Grand Treasurer.....	1,396 00
		<hr/>
		\$2,116 62

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Warrants Nos. 148, 153, 157, 160, 163, 165, 168, 174, 177, 180, 183, 185, Piazza & Botto, Rent of offices 302 and 303...	\$ 120 00
Warrant No. 149, James K. Moore, Insurance.....	12 40
Warrants Nos. 150, 152, 155, 158, 161, 164, 167, 172, 175, 179, 181, 184, Frederic Speed, Salary	500 00
Warrant No. 151, Vicksburg Herald, Printing and Stationery...	54 07
Warrant No. 154, Rogers & Smith, Co., Portraits for Proceedings	5 50
Warrant No. 156, Frederic Speed, Contingent Fund.....	25 00
Warrant No. 159, Vicksburg Herald, Proceedings and Stationery	263 55
Warrant No. 166, Dues to Grand Encampment	51 70
Warrant No. 169, Gus, J. Bahin, Pay Roll at Jackson.....	244 95
Warrant No. 170, Gus. J. Bahin, Salary	50 00
Warrant No. 171, Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum, Collection at Jackson.....	64 06
Warrant No. 173, Mississippi Printing Co., Printing and Stationery.....	6 65
Warrant No. 176, Rogers & Smith Co., Photographs and plates of J. K. Fulson	36 00
Warrant No. 178, Frederic Speed, Contingent Fund.....	25 00
Warrant No. 182, Rice & Co., Book cases.....	32 00

Grand Commandery Receipts, 1904.

DUES WHICH WERE PAID AFTER FEBRUARY 10, 1905.

Name of Commandery	Number Members	Dues at \$1.00	Knighted at \$5.00	Total	Net Payment
Coahoma, No. 22.....	26	\$26 00	\$25 00	\$51 00	\$41 00*
Delta, No. 16.....	42	42 00	15 00	57 00	57 00
Holly Springs, No. 4.....	40	40 00	50 00	90 00	90 00
Greenwood, No. 24.....	24	24 00	5 00	29 00	29 00
Lexington, No. 3.....	38	38 00	10 00	48 00	48 00
Mississippi, No. 1.....	40	40 00	30 00	70 00	70 00
Magnolia, No. 2.....	61	60 00	30 00	90 00	90 00
St. Cyr, No. 6.....	81	81 00	10 00	91 00	91 00
West Point, No. 20.....	43	43 00	20 00	63 00	48 56†
Yazoo, No. 23.....	32	32 00	60 00	92 00	92 00
Total.....					\$656 56

* \$10.00 Paid after this account closed.

† Net payment.

Grand Commandery Receipts, 1905.

FROM COMMANDERIES PAID BEFORE FEBRUARY 10, 1906.

Name of Commandery	Number Members	Dues at \$1.00	Knighted at \$5.00	Total
Aberdeen, No. 17.....	41	\$ 41 00	\$25 00	\$ 66 00
Coahoma, No. 22.....	31	31 00	30 00	61 00
Cyrene, No. 9.....	171	171 00	95 00	266 00
DeMolay, No. 8.....	37	37 00	5 00	42 00
Hattiesburg, No. 21.....	63	63 00	85 00	148 00
Lexington, No. 3.....	52	52 00	70 00	122 00
Magnolia, No. 2.....	60	60 00	20 00	80 00
Mississippi, No. 1.....	41	41 00	5 00	46 00
Rosalie, No. 5.....	65	65 00	55 00	120 00
Mary Savery, No. 14...	45	45 00	5 00	50 00
St. Cyr, No. 6.....	81	81 00	15 00	96 00
The Coast, No. 19.....	35	35 00	50 00	85 00
West Point, No. 20.....	48	48 00	35 00	83 00
Yazoo, No. 23.....	46	46 00	75 00	121 00
Total.....				\$1,386 00

Appropriation.

On motion of Right Eminent Sir Oliver Lee McKay, the following was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be donated to the widow of our late Sir Knight James A. Leach, said amount to be used in paying off the mortgage on her home,

Time for Annual Conclave Fixed.

On motion of Right Eminent Sir Oliver Lee McKay, the following was adopted :

Resolved, That effective after the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery in 1907, that the Annual Conclave be held on the third Tuesday in April.

Election of Officers.

On motion, the Grand Commandery proceeded to hold its election of officers for the ensuing year with the following result :

Grand Commander.....	DEB. WADDELL.
Deputy Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. MYERS.
Grand Generalissimo.....	NOLAN STEWART.
Grand Captain General.....	GEORGE C. HOSKINS.
Grand Prelate.....	JOSEPH J. BROOKS.
Grand Treasurer.....	GUS J. BAHIN.
Grand Recorder.....	FREDERIC SPEED,
Senior Grand Warden.....	GARLAND D. BROWN.
Junior Grand Warden.....	JOHN S. BROOKS.
Grand Standard Bearer.....	E. ERNEST CLEMENT.
Grand Sword Bearer.....	EDWIN J. MARTIN.
Grand Warder	R. A. STIGLER.

Templar Law.

The Committee on Templar Law submitted the following report, which was on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery :

Your Committee on Templar Law beg leave to report that having received no enquiries of importance, deem it unnecessary to report its answers. Such as have been received were answered by direct citation to the Code of Statutes.

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. SAVERY,
W. A. BODENHAMER,
O. L. MCKAY,
Committee.

Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report, which was on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

The Finance Committee beg leave to report that they have examined the reports, vouchers and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and find the same, in all respects, correct.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. FRENCH,
J. E. SAVEY,
GEORGE B. POWER,
Committee.

New Commandery at Newton.

The Special Committee on the organization of a new Commandery at Newton submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of Sir Knights, J. C. McClinton, and others praying for the establishing of a Commandery at Newton, Miss., beg to report that the petition be agreed to and granted.

Fraternally submitted,

B. V. WHITE, Chairman,
J. J. BROOKS,
W. T. STEGER,
L. A. BENOIST,
R. H. HENRY,

Committee.

Next Annual Conclave.

On motion of Right Eminent Sir Oliver Lee McKay, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the next annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery be held in the city of Natchez on such date as the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander may designate.

New Commandery at Grenada.

The Special Committee on the organization of a new Commandery at Grenada submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander; and the Grand Commandery of Mississippi:

Your committee to whom was referred the communication of Sir Knights W. H. Whitaker, J. E. DeLoach and L. L. Owens, relative to the establishing of a Commandery at Grenada, Miss., beg leave to report that they recommend the establishment of a new Commandery at Grenada, Miss., on all the requirements of the law being observed, to be given a new name and number.

Courteously submitted,

B. V. WHITE, Chairman,
R. H. HENRY,
W. T. STEGER,
J. J. BROOKS,
L. A. BENOIST,

Committee.

Vote of Thanks.

On motion, the following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the profound thanks of this Grand Commandery be tendered to the most excellent people of Brookhaven, for their perfect and charming hospitality; to the good ladies and gentlemen who rendered such delightful music at our church services; to the pastor and members of the Methodist church for use of their house of worship and to Sir Knights Grafton, Hoskins, Heuck, the two Seaveys, Brother Lowental and the countless others, who have added so much to our enjoyment and comfort.

Resolved further: That the thanks of the Grand Commandery be and they are hereby tendered to the Reverend Doctor I. Cooper, President, and the ladies of Whithworth college for the reception and concert given in its honor and which was so thoroughly enjoyed.

Be it further resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be furnished to the press for publication.

The following was also unanimously adopted :

Resolved: That the thanks of the Grand Commandery be and they are tendered to the retiring Grand Commander for his able and impartial administration and for the uniform courtesies shown in all of his relations to the Sir Knights.

Triennial Conclave.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, laid before the Grand Commandery a communication from Very Eminent Sir Arthur McArthur, Chairman of the Triennial Committee of the Grand Commandery of New York, in reference to arrangements being made for quarters and comfort of the several Grand Commanderies at the Triennial Conclave to be held at Saratoga next year, which was referred to Triennial Committee to be appointed, with thanks to Sir McArthur for his courtesies.

Necrology.

(Chicago Tribune.)

“All the rivers run into the sea ; yet the sea is not full ; unto the place from whence the rivers come thither they return again.”—Ecclesiastes i, 7.

All the rivers find the sea,
And all the years, eternity.

The rivulet that idles on
Where sigh the rushes tremulous,
Or laughs beside the flowered lawn,
Or flaunts the spicy calamus,
Or breaks and leaps and shouts and brawls
With echoes from the farther hills,
Still hears the sea's insistent calls
And flows on as that calling wills.

The rivers of the varied moods
That sing across the singing plain,
Or in the forest solitudes
Chant measures in a sombre vein—
They, too, but answer that one call ;
Or north, or south, or east, or west
The rivers journey one and all
Down to the sea of peace and rest.

And from the sea the rivers rise
As from eternity the days—
Within the heart of time there lies
The rule of their appointed ways;
Within the heart of time each dawn
And golden moon and twilight gray
And every moment come or gone
Has known its call to go or stay.

So all the smiles and all the tears,
And grief and joy live o'er and o'er,
And on the bosom of the years
Drift out from some eternal shore,
Rise out of that eternity
Which was, and is, and shall endure;
And what has been and what shall be
Knew, and shall know, that haven sure.

All the rivers find the sea,
And all the years eternity.

As "all the rivers run into the sea" so all the days of our life we are drifting onward toward the great ocean of eternity and one by one our friends are swallowed up by the waves and disappear and but for the abiding faith that "whence the rivers come thither they return again," all would be dread and apprehension of the inexorable fate which awaits us. But we know that there is a haven sure and though we are drifting upon the face of the waters, there is a Pilot who stands at the helm of our frail barques and will bring us safely and "unto the haven guide at last." And thus, we can with equanimity witness the departure of our friends upon that journey from which no traveller returneth, not but that we will miss their companionship and yearn for the clasp of a hand which is now pulseless, and so we say to them bon voyage.

One who was numbered amongst us for many years, is not here to-day, as he was accustomed to come, for John Kidder Fulson, our Senior Past Grand Commander laid down his sword and buckler on the tenth day of July last. Born July 11, 1829, all the years of his life had been filled with activity and he had known but little of leisure, but he found time in which to serve the brotherhood, the community and the church with unceasing devotion. In early life he served his country as a soldier in the war with Mexico and afterwards locating in this State he was in the employment of the railroads in responsible positions, winning the confidence and esteem of his superiors and respect of his associates, which he retained until the infirmities of age required him to seek less laborious and exacting employment. A warm and devoted churchman, he was always active in the service of the church of his choice and in the community a good citizen who never lost sight of the public welfare. As a Mason

he was never idle when his hands and brain found work for him to do. Accomplished as a ritualist and well versed in the laws, usages and customs of the Craft, his services were always in demand and freely rendered. But it was in the Templar Order that his greatest affection was centered and in which he attained to the highest honors—Grand Commander in 1869. He lived to see most of his associates, who were a notable company of men, pass away. There were but six Commanderies then, but they were represented by Patton, Bond, Henry, Power, DeLap, Oltenberg, Nelson and Springer, all of whom were numbered among the Princes of our Masonic Israel, in those days. Modest and unobtrusive, he did not thrust himself forward, but there were but few men whose council carried greater weight or who did more to earn the plaudit, "Well done good and faithful servant." Kind hearted and affectionate he loved and was loved by his fellows, and now that he too has gone he will not cease to occupy a warm place in our hearts and his memory will flourish in immortal green.

When the electric spark flashed over the wires on the seventh day of April, the tidings that Franklin P. Jenkins was dead, it carried a message we could hardly believe, for we had seen him but a few brief days before in apparent good health and in the full strength of vigorous manhood, but, alas, it was only too true—for he had been stricken while laboring in his garden in the cultivation of some plants, the sale of which was to have been devoted to the missionary cause of his church, it having been agreed that nothing was to be given to the fund but the products of the individual labors of each contributor. And thus he fell working for those whom he did not know, for the good of others whom he never would see and by whom he could not even be thanked. The Templars of old fought for a sentiment when they drew their swords to rescue the Holy Sepulcher from the profaning hands of infidels, but they were stimulated and encouraged by the mighty host with its gleaming banners.

For lo, from far, as on they pressed
There came a glittering band,
With one who midst them stately rode
As a leader in the land.

But here was a Templar with the same love of the Master animating him, who labored none the less gloriously that he might be honored. And so, he died, a true Soldier of the Cross. It is something to say of a man that he was a good citizen, who lived well and endeavored to make better the community in which his lot was cast. Such was our brother, who never held back his hand when the public welfare was concerned. A generous and kind hearted man, he helped others to make life easier and better and although actively engaged in an engrossing business he found time and means to serve the church whose minister and servant he was. In Masonry he was ever zealous and industrious and did not hesitate to work in any capacity, being equal to the highest station and not too proud to serve in the lowest in rank. He was a good friend, pleasant and affable in his

manners and kind and considerate toward all. His departure has severed another tie which bound us to earth and there is another friend standing on the banks of the river beckoning us to cross over.

Whilst there were some amongst those of whom we write, whose personal acquaintance we did not enjoy, there were others who honored us by their friendship and esteem and whose memories will linger like a sweet smelling savor until we, too, have joined the long caravan which journeys to the grave. Pause then, while we endeavor to recall, as best we may,

“ Mony a canty day, John
We’ve had wi’ ane anither.”

When Almond Ralph Dewey had gone down to the banks of the river and his poor, tired feet were already laved by the waters and he was about to enter that he might pass over and rest beneath the shade of the trees, he sent to us an affectionate message of farewell, written from a bed from which he knew he was never again to rise in this world. It was a pleasant message to receive from an old friend of many years standing, though the words brought tears to our eyes. Judged from any standpoint, he was no ordinary man and had lived a life of great usefulness; useful to the community in which he resided, useful to the state, which he had served so well, to the Craft, which had honored him and which he honored by many years of ardent service. When a mere lad of seventeen he threw aside his school books and enlisted in the service of his country, in which he continued until disability caused him to be discharged, but he again enlisted, when health and strength had returned and served with honor to himself until the happy day came when the Angel of Peace spread its wings over the land and bid men subdue their angry passions and labored to bind up the wounds, which the nation received in a fratricidal conflict. He moved to the then new west and entered upon the study of the law and soon afterward was admitted to the bar, where his keen, quick intuition enabled him to make rapid progress and soon to be recognized as a strong lawyer and a convincing advocate. Elected by the people as one of their judges, fairness, promptness and fearlessness won for him, during twelve years of ardent service, the highest esteem of all and caused him to be known as a just and upright judge, before whom the people might with confidence plead their causes. For thirty years he had attended the sessions of the different Grand Bodies of Iowa, where his quick, alert and well trained legal mind made him a leader and he left a strong impression upon the Masonry of Iowa, which will endure so long as it its self shall continue. As a friend, he was loyal and true, and had a warm and generous heart and affable and pleasant manners, which endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and it was not strange that honors came to him abundantly and but natural that men constantly placed confidence in his integrity and relied implicitly upon his judgment. Iowa has had many distinguished and, even great Masons, brethren who had so interwoven

themselves into the woof and warp of the Masonic fabric that they had made themselves a part of it, but there were none who excelled Almond Ralph Dewey, Past Grand Master, Past Grand High Priest, Past Thrice Illustrious Grand Master and Past Grand Commander, who ended his earthly career on the 15th day of April, 1905.

Every one whose privilege it was to know Brenton Daniel Babcock, Past Grand Commander of Ohio, and who had come under the genial influence of his kind and amiable nature, his cordial, affectionate and unswerving loyalty to his friends but paused when the seal of death was placed upon him. He was recognized as a leader and authority, and had a large part in shaping and building up the Masonic Grand Bodies of Ohio, where his Masonic offices were a multitude in number and his Masonic affiliations extended from the Blue Lodge to the Supreme Council of the 33rd degree and were so numerous that it would be difficult to recount them. For four and a half years he lived under the shadow of death but with dauntless courage and the cheerfulness which was a part of his nature, he faithfully and efficiently went on with the performance of his official duties and was a regular attendant upon and participated in the proceedings of his Grand Bodies and until the end was courageous and happy and the final summons found him ready to answer the Master's call. Honors innumerable have been paid to his memory by his brethren, but he was worthy of them all.

Cornelius Lighton Twing, Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of New York, for many years was chairman of the Committee on Necrology of the Grand Commandery and had written loving words of the dead, which were in themselves the sweetest of poems and did space permit, one would only have to choose, from his memorials of the dead, the beautiful words which he uttered of others and repeat them, as his most fitting eulogy. He was a man of unusual activities and in addition to the duties of a large church, of which he was the Rector, found time to deliver innumerable Masonic Addresses, all of which show the product of a deep scholarly mind and are valuable for the high standard he raised of the office and purposes of Freemasonry. The few words permitted me to say here fall far short of doing the justice and honor to his memory to which he was so justly entitled.

This writer had known Andrew J. Brow, who had held many positions of trust in the Masonic Bodies of Michigan and who, at the time of his death had been Grand Captain of the Guards of the Grand Commandery, for nearly half a century. He was known and loved by the entire community in the city of his residence and throughout the state of Michigan and was esteemed and honored as he was deserving, by all who knew him. On the 15th. day of December last, he terminated an unusually protracted Masonic career.

James Swords, Past Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, died on August 29th, 1905. He was a genial and cheerful man, who loved his fellow men and occupied a warm place in the hearts of a

multitude who loved, honored and respected him and the banners of no Grand Commandery were ever draped in sable hues for one who deserved the honor more than he, for no one enjoyed the friendship and esteem of a great number of men than this kind hearted and amiable frater.

There are some of those, who by reason of their long service, seem to be a part of Masonry and such was Thomas Milburn Reed, who on October 7th. last, terminated a Masonic career of unusual activity extending back for more than half a century. He had been almost continuously Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington from 1858. In fact, with the exception of one year, when he was Grand Master and parts of two years, when he was absent from the state, since its organization. For two years he was Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery and for many years an active member and officer of the Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree. As Grand Secretary, he was not only the oldest, in point of service, but he was the peer of any in ability and scholarly attainments. To be a good Grand Secretary requires a many sided man with a knowledge of many things which do not come within the experience of many men and there are but few who possess the necessary qualifications, but Brother Reed was in every respect thoroughly qualified for the position, which he occupied for so long and no better testimonial could be found than the record of his Grand Lodge, which he made for so many years. The volume is closed now, but it will remain as an enduring memorial to his faithfulness and zeal. As a writer of the Correspondence Reports he displayed a great knowledge and a true conception of the purposes for which Masonry exists. It goes without saying, that he was affectionate, companionable and courteous in his manners and if he had not possessed the gift of being tactful, he could not have held the position which he filled so well for so long a period.

Robert Wilkerson Furnas, Past Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commander of Nebraska who had rendered great service to his country, as an officer of the regular army, died June 1, 1905. He was a notable man and filled many positions of honor and trust and had zealously rendered valuable services to Masonry in all its branches, having been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, which in itself, is evidence, that he was a man of no ordinary mould and that he occupied in the esteem and affections of the Brotherhood the highest place.

Edward Leland Bartlett, first Grand Commander of New Mexico, died October 19, 1904.

Henry G. Thayer, Past Grand Commander of Indiana, died April 18, 1905.

William Russell Walker, Past Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, died March 11, 1905.

William H. Ruby, Past Grand Commander of Maryland, died February 26, 1905.

Brenton Hayes Langley, the senior Past Grand Commander of Minnesota, died March 7, 1905.

Eugene W. Kelley, Past Grand Commander of Indiana, died February 24, 1905.

George Washington Patton,, Grand Commander of West Virginia, died August 3, 1905.

Albert H. Branch, Past Deputy Grand Commander of Colorado, died December 6, 1905.

Thomas West Tilden, Past Grand Commander of New Jersey, died August 10, 1905.

William Elmer Seeley, Grand Commander of Connecticut, died August 25, 1905.

Edwin D. Palmer, Past Grand Commander of Indiana, died June 30, 1905.

Nathaniel Wyche Hunter, Past Grand Commander of Texas died—

Benjamin F. Atkinson, Past Grand Commander of Arkansas, died September 22, 1905.

B. Frank Breneman, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, died December 31, 1905.

Charles W. Hatter, Past Grand Commander of Maryland died April 14, 1905.

FREDERIC SPEED.

INSTALLATION.

At the request of the Retiring Grand Commander, Right Eminent Sir Enoch George DeLap proceeded to install the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:

Grand Commander.....	DEB. WADDELL.
Deputy Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. MYERS.
Grand Captain-General.....	GEORGE C. HOSKINS.
Grand Prelate.....	JOSEPH J. BROOKS.
Grand Treasurer.....	GUS J. BAHIN.
Grand Recorder.....	FREDERIC SPEED.
Senior Grand Warden.....	GARLAND D. BROWN.
Junior Grand Warden.....	JOHN S. BROOKS.
Grand Standard Bearer.....	E. ERNEST CLEMENT.
Grand Sword Bearer.....	EDWIN J. MARTIN.
Grand Warder.....	R. A. STEGLER.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander announced the appointment of the following named Standing Committees for the following year, viz:

TEMPLAR LAW: Phineas M. Savery, P.G.C., Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE: Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Grand Commandery having concluded the business of its Forty-Sixth Annual Grand Conclave, was then adjourned until its Forty-Seventh Annual Grand Conclave, to be held in the Asylum of Rosalie Commandery in the city of Natchez, on Friday, February 22, 1907.

DeB. WADDELL,
Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederic Speed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the title "Grand Recorder".

Grand Recorder.



F. P. Jenkins



Handwritten signature or scribble

GONE UP HIGHER.

I saw the mountains stand
Silent, wonderful and grand,
Looking out across the land
When the golden light was falling
On distant dome and spire;
And I heard a low voice calling,
"Come up higher, come up higher,
From the lowland and the mire,
From the mist of earth desire
From the vain pursuit of self,
From the attitude of self;
Come up higher, come up higher."

—James G. Clark.

ABERDEEN, 17.

FRANKLIN P. JENKINS, P.G.C. - - April 10, 1905.
S. H. BERG, - - - - April 17, 1905.

COAHOMA, 22.

J. T. MILLS, - - - -

CYRENE, 9.

WILLIAM H. GALLASPY, - - - March 18, 1905.
GEORGE B. HARPER, - - - April 10, 1905.
FRANK M. KEEN, - - - June 30, 1905.
JAMES A. KELLY, - - - August 20, 1905.
T. B. LAMB, - - - March 2, 1905.
W. M. WOODBURY, - - - November, 1905.

DELTA, 16.

EDWARD L. GRADY, - - - August 11, 1905.

GREENWOOD, 24.

R. A. McLEMORE, - - - November 25, 1905.
N. E. WHITEHEAD, P.E.C., - - March 25, 1905.

HATTIESBURG, 21.

JOHN McDUFFY, - - - February 25, 1905.
W. R. McDONALD, - - - March 4, 1905.
C. H. CONGDON, - - - December 27, 1905.

HOLLY SPRINGS, 4.

BENJAMIN L. MILAN, - - - April 3, 1905.

IVANHOE, 10.

JAMES A. LEACH, - - - May 22, 1905.
JOHN B. SMITH, - - - June 27, 1905.
G. S. HENDERSON, - - - August 2, 1905.

St. CYR, 6.

JOHN KIDDER FULSON, P.G.C., - - July 10, 1905.

WEST POINT, 20.

J. ROBERT CAMPBELL, - - - January 7, 1905.

ROSTER OF COMMANDERIES.

NAME OF COMMANDERY.	POST OFFICE.	COMMANDER.	RECORDER.
ABERDEEN, 17.....	ABERDEEN.....	A. C. Lowe.....	H. C. Hamilton.
CANTON, 12.....	CANTON.....	Defunct.....	Ellington Fant.
COAHOMA, 22.....	CLARKSDALE.....	John S. Brooks (Robinsonville).....	
COEUR LEON, 13.....	PORT GIBSON.....	Defunct.....	
CYRENE, 9.....	MERIDIAN.....	J. W. Hagemeyer.....	Andrew J. Peck.
DELTA, 16.....	GREENVILLE.....	Emmet N. Thomas.....	C. A. Kinkead.
DEMOLAY, 8.....	COLUMBUS.....	C. Lee Lincoln.....	Henry M. Waddell.
EDWARDS, 26.....	EDWARDS.....	William A. Montgomery.....	T. P. Martin.
GREENWOOD, 24.....	GREENWOOD.....	E. R. McShane.....	G. B. Stewart.
GRENADA, 15.....	GRENADA.....	Defunct.....	
HATTIESBURG, 21.....	HATTIESBURG.....	S. J. Pettigrew.....	J. W. Montague.
HOLLY SPRINGS, 4.....	HOLLY SPRINGS.....	Charles H. Wright.....	L. B. Mosby.
IVANHOE, 10.....	OKOLOXA.....	Frank Burkett.....	N. A. Love.
KOSCIUSKO, 11.....	KOSCIUSKO.....	Defunct.....	
LEXINGTON, 3.....	LEXINGTON.....	S. M. Smith.....	Parham Williams.
MACON, 25.....	MACON.....	W. F. Scales.....	J. O. Faser.
MAGNOLIA, 2.....	VICKSBURG.....	William A. Stanton.....	James K. Moore.
MARY SAVERY, 14.....	CORINTH.....	W. W. Fitzgerald.....	J. P. Collier.
MISSISSIPPI, 1.....	JACKSON.....	George B. Power.....	William J. Brown, Jr.
NEWTON, U, D.....	NEWTON.....	J. J. Haralson.....	John A. Webb.
ROSALIE, 5.....	NATCHEZ.....	W. L. Wells.....	Charles F. Merrick.
ST. CYR, 6.....	WATER VALLEY.....	Robert W. Helm.....	C. E. Romberger.
ST. ELMO, 18.....	BROOKHAVEN.....	John E. Seavey.....	Eugene McCormick.
THE COAST, 19.....	BILOXI.....	Thomas J. Rossell.....	Henry J. Meaut.
WEST POINT, 20.....	WEST POINT.....	William Johnson.....	D. A. Meek.
WINONA, 7.....	WINONA.....	Defunct.....	
YALOBUSHA, U, D.....	GRENADA.....	W. H. WHITAKER.....	
YAZOO, 23.....	YAZOO CITY.....	J. Barnett Ellis.....	Samuel S. Shipp.*

* Deceased.

ROSTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES.

- ALABAMA—Grand Recorder, George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery.
ARIZONA—Grand Recorder, George J. Roskrug, Tucson.
ARKANSAS—Grand Recorder, Fay Hempstead, Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA—Grand Recorder, William A. Davies, San Francisco.
CANADA—Grand Chancellor, William H. Whyte, Montreal.
COLORADO—Grand Recorder, Charles H. Jacobson, Denver.
CONNECTICUT—Grand Recorder, Eli C. Birdsey, Meriden.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Grand Recorder, Arvine W. Johnston, Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES—Grand Vice-Chancellor, C. F. Matier, Mark Masons Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W. C. England.
FLORIDA—Grand Recorder, Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville.
GEORGIA—Grand Recorder, William S. Rockwell, Savannah.
ILLINOIS—Grand Recorder, Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago.
INDIANA—Grand Recorder, Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis.
INDIAN TERRITORY—Grand Recorder, Joseph Samuel Morrow, Atoka.
IOWA—Grand Recorder, David Millar Brownlee, Sioux City.
KANSAS—Grand Recorder, Thomas J. Anderson, Topeka.
KENTUCKY—Grand Recorder, Alfred Hughes Bryant, Covington.
LOUISIANA—Grand Recorder, Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
MAINE—Grand Recorder, Stephen Barry, Portland.
MARYLAND—Grand Recorder, John H. Miller, Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—Grand Recorder, Benjamin W. Rowell, Boston.
MICHIGAN—Grand Recorder, Henry L. Anthony, Sturgis.
MINNESOTA—Grand Recorder, Edward M. Van Cleve, Minneapolis.
MISSISSIPPI—Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed, Vicksburg.
MISSOURI—Grand Recorder, William H. Mayo, St. Louis.
MONTANA—Grand Recorder, Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
NEBRASKA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. White, Omaha.
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Grand Recorder, Frank Dana Woodbury, Concord.
NEW JERSEY—Grand Recorder, Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton.
NEW MEXICO—Grand Recorder, Alpheus A. Keene, Albuquerque.
NEW YORK—Grand Recorder, John H. Bonnington, 27 East 21st Street, New York.
NORTH CAROLINA—Grand Recorder, James C. Munds, Wilmington.
NORTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
OHIO—Grand Recorder, John Nelson Bell, Dayton.
OKLAHOMA—Grand Recorder, Harper S. Cunningham, Guthrie.
OREGON—Grand Recorder, James F. Robinson, Eugene.
PENNSYLVANIA—Grand Recorder, William W. Allen, Philadelphia.
SCOTLAND—Grand Recorder, Lindsey McKersey, Edinburgh.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, George A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE—Grand Recorder, John B. Garrett, Nashville.

TEXAS—Grand Recorder, John Carson Kidd, Houston.

VERMONT—Grand Recorder, Henry N. Ross, Burlington.

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA—Grand Recorder, Charles Chapman, Melbourne.

VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, James B. Blanks, Petersburg.

WASHINGTON—Grand Recorder, Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.

WEST VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. Nichols, Fairmont.

WISCONSIN—Grand Recorder, William W. Perry, Milwaukee.

WYOMING—Grand Recorder, Adrian J. Parshall, Cheyene.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT—Grand Recorder, John A. Gerow, Detroit, Mich.

Grand Representatives.

Commissioned to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

<i>Grand Commandery.</i>	<i>Representative—Postoffice.</i>	<i>Date of Commission</i>
Alabama.....	N. G. Augustus, Okolona.....	Reappointed Dec. 23, 1901, Nov. 10, 1904.
Arizona.....	O. A. Harrison, P.E.C., Meridian.....	June 26, 1902.
Arkansas.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Biloxi.....	February 7, 1899, re-appointed Nov. 10, 1904.
California.....	Phineas M. Savery, P.G.C., Tupelo.....	March 27, 1890.
Colorado.....	George S. Hunter, P.E.C., Bolton.....	December 6, 1904.
Connecticut.....	Garland D. Brown, Water Valley.....	November 1, 1898, renewed M'ch 15, 1902, October 8, 1904.
District Columbia.....	Edwin J. Martin, Meridian.....	December 24, 1898, renewed Dec. 31, 1904.
Florida.....	J. E. Seavey, Brookhaven.....	July 28, 1899, renewed March 13, 1902, November 11, 1904.
Georgia.....	James C. French, P.G.C., Natchez.....	October 15, 1901, renewed Nov. 11, 1904.
Illinois.....	James K. Moore, Vicksburg.....	January 2, 1899, renewed Dec. 26, 1901, Nov. 10, 1904.
Indiana.....	Charles E. Grafton, Brookhaven.....	July 25, 1899.
Iowa.....	Frederic Speed, P.G.C., Vicksburg.....	December 28, 1898, renewed March 15, 1902, December 30, 1904.
Kansas.....	Wm. G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Natchez.....	July 13, 1896, renewed March 17, 1902, December 5, 1904.
Kentucky.....	Cass Oltenburg, Lexington.....	January 25, 1899.
Louisiana.....	Enoch Geo. DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.....	1892.
Maine.....	C. Lee Lincoln, Columbus.....	October 16, 1895, renewed Dec. 7, 1904.
Massachusetts & Rhode Island. }	John S. Cobb, P.G.C., Verona.....	August 1898, September 9, 1904.
Maryland.....	James T. Harrison, P.G.C., Columbus.....	October 15, 1896 renewed February 4, 1902, Dec. 8, 1904.
Minnesota.....	H. M. Romberger, P.G.C., Winona.....	November 23, 1891.
Missouri.....	M. Leith Stigler, Yazoo City.....	Sept 15, 1903, renewed Nov. 1, 1904, April 3, 1905.
Montana.....	DeB. Waddell, G.C., Meridian.....	March 30, 1902.
Nebraska.....	Emmet N. Thomas, Greenville.....	April 12, 1904.
New Hampshire.....	Benjamin V. White, Meridian.....	February 8, 1901, renewed Nov. 20, 1902, December 5, 1904.
New Jersey.....	E. Ernest Clement, Ocean Springs.....	August 21, 1899, renewed Nov. 10, 1904.
New Mexico.....	Thomas B. Franklin, Columbus.....	August 14, 1912, renewed July 30, 1905.
New York.....	Enoch Geo. DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.....	January 15, 1890, renewed Dec. 1, 1904.
North Carolina.....	Jas. M. Buchanan, P.G.C., Meridian.....	December 7, 1904.
North Dakota.....	John D. Miles, Vicksburg.....	
Ohio.....	Jno. A. B. Jones, P.G.C., Magnolia.....	December 23, 1901, renewed Dec. 7, 1904.
Oregon.....	Geo. C. Myers, P.E.C., Jackson.....	February 12, 1902.
Pennsylvania.....	Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Meridian.....	January 11, 1902, renewed Dec. 12, 1904.
South Dakota.....	William G. Sykes, Aberdeen.....	December 16, 1898, renewed M'ch 14, 1902, Nov. 9, 1904.
Tennessee.....	Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Biloxi.....	April 4, 1902.
Texas.....	Gus J. Bahin, H.P.G.C., Natchez.....	November 19, 1898, renewed Dec. 1, 1904.
Vermont.....	James J. Hays, P.G.C., Vicksburg.....	June 5, 1899, renewed December 10, 1904.
Virginia.....	Wm. G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Natchez.....	July, 1896.
West Virginia.....	W. A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C., Okolona.....	Renewed March 17, 1902, Dec. 12, 1914.
Wisconsin.....	John A. Dix, Natchez.....	November 20, 1895.
Wyoming.....	Melvin R. Grant, P.E.C., Meridian.....	January 10, 1905.

Grand Representatives

Commissioned by the Grand Commandery of Mississipl.

<i>Grand Commandery.</i>	<i>Representative—Postoffice.</i>	<i>Date of Commission</i>
Alabama	Henry M. Matthews, Montgomery.....	November 1, 1904.
Arizona	James Manoah Swetman, Phoenix.....	July 2, 1902.
Arkansas	T. H. Jackson, Brinkley.....	{ Nov. 1, 1902, renewed Nov. 1, 1904.
California	Carroll Cook, San Francisco.....	Dec. 19, 1900.
Colorado	Alfonso A. Burnard, Leadville.....	Jan. 2, 1890.
Connecticut	William C. Comstock, Meriden.....	{ Nov. 26, 1902, re- newed Sept. 30, 1904.
District Columbia.....	Albert B. Jackson, Washington.....	Oct. 10, 1896.
Florida.....	Albert P. Morrow, Gainesville.....	Nov. 1, 1904.
Georgia	Thomas E. Fletcher, Forsyth.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 3, 1904.
Illinois	James G. Elwood, Joliet.....	{ January, 9, 1899, renewed Feb. 7, 1902.
Indiana	Frederick Glass, Madison.....	{ August 17, 1899, renewed Feb. 9, 1902.
Iowa	Thomas Hayes Whitney, Atlantic.....	June 12, 1905.
Kansas.....	Willis S. Maynard, Kingman.....	Dec. 2, 1904.
Kentucky.....	Alfred H. Bryant, Covington.....	Sept. 14, 1902.
Louisiana	Joseph H. DeGrange, New Orleans.....	
Maine	Cyrus W. Davis, Waterville.....	{ Feb. 2, 1902, renewed Nov. 2, 1904.
Maryland	James F. Allen, Rockwell.....	Nov. 2, 1904.
Massachusetts & Rhode Island. }	Benjamin W. Rowell, Lynn.....	{ Dec. 16, 1892, renewed Feb. 7, 1902. Dec. 2, 1904.
Minnesota	Charles H. Mix, Crookston.....	{ June 28, 1893, renewed Feb. 7, 1902.
Missouri	Alexander M. Dockery, Palatine.....	{ February 5, 1890, re- newed Feb. 7, 1902, Dec. 3, 1904.
Montana	E. D. Aikin, Butte City.....	July 10, 1901.
Nebraska	Louis F. DeLorimier, Omaha.....	Oct. 8, 1896.
New Hampshire.....	Daniel C. Roberts, Concord.....	{ July 22, 1899, renewed Feb. 7, 1902. Dec. 2, 1904.
New Jersey.....		
New York.....	John H. Chapman, Newberg.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 3, 1904.
North Carolina	Martin S. Williard, Wilmington.....	March 9, 1897.
North Dakota.....	Frank H. Sprague, Grafton.....	Feb. 8, 1902.
New Mexico.....	Jason W. James, Roswell.....	Nov. 1, 1902.
Ohio	George E. McNab, Youngstown.....	Dec. 9, 1904.
Oregon	C. E. Loomis, Eugene.....	
Pennsylvania	John F. Rau, Philadelphia.....	{ Feb. 17, 1901, renewed Jan. 3, 1905.
South Dakota	William H. Roddle, Brooklings.....	{ Feb. 17, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Tennessee.....	James Park Hanner, Franklin.....	Aug. 16, 1899.
Texas	Will N. Kidd, Houston.....	{ March 14, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Vermont	George F. Leland, Springfield	Dec. 17, 1905.
Virginia	Charles E. Borst, Petersburg.....	Oct. 1, 1905.
Washington	Walter J. Thompson, Tacoma.....	May 24, 1889.
West Virginia	Edward O. Bower, Sisterville.....	{ Feb. 7, 1902, renewed Dec. 2, 1904.
Wisconsin.....	N. C. Giffin, Fond du Lac.....	
Wyoming	Samuel Earhart, Cheyenne.....	Jan. 3, 1905.

Grand Commanders

From Organization---1857 to 1907.

William H. Stevens.....	1857 to 1858—Died October 13, 1866.
George P. Crump.....	1858 to 1859—Died 1860.
Giles Mumford Hillyer.....	1859 to 1860—Died April 23, 1871.
Harvey W. Walter.....	1860 to 1861—Died Sept. 19, 1878.
Benjamin S. Tappan.....	1861 to 1866—Died March 1, 1866.
Edward Lee.....	1866 to 1867—Died 1878.
Christopher A. Manlove.....	1867 to 1868—Died Dec. 29, 1878.
Fleet C. Mercer.....	1868 to 1869—Died January 26, 1885.
John K. Fulsom,....	1869 to 1870—Died July 10, 1905.
Charles T. Bond.....	1870 to 1871—Died Dec. 14, 1872.
William S. Patton.....	1871 to 1872—Died July 5, 1889.
Enoch George DeLap,.....	1872 to 1873.
Edmund T. Henry.....	1873 to 1874—Died April 19, 1881.
Phineas M. Savery,.....	1874 to 1875.
Gid. W. Cox.....	1875 to 1876—Died July 9, 1900.
Oliver Clifton.....	1876 to 1877—Died January 2, 1905.
William A. Fairchild.....	1877 to 1878—Died Sept 20, 1878.
William Gallatin Paxton.....	1878 to 1879—Died October 26, 1889.
Charles M. Erwin.....	1879 to 1880—(Non-resident.)
William G. Benbrook.....	1880 to 1881.
William French.....	1881 to 1882—Died April 28, 1884.
James T. Meade.....	1882 to 1883—Died March 8, 1903.
Henry M. Romberger.....	1883 to 1884.
W. P. Towler.....	1884 to 1885—Died March 30, 1893.
John H. Gordon.....	1885 to 1886—Died February 17, 1902.
Bolivar H. Vaughan.....	1886 to 1887—Died November 5, 1897.
Nathan S. Walker.....	1887 to 1888—Died August 12, 1895.
Frederic Speed.....	1888 to 1890.
James J. Hayes.....	1890 to 1891.
Joseph Edward Leigh.....	1891 to 1892—Died November 7, 1891.
William A. Bodenhamer.....	1892 to 1893.
Samuel W. Ferguson.....	1893 to 1894.
James C. French.....	1894 to 1895.
Frank P. Jenkins.....	1895 to 1896—Died April 7, 1905.
James M. Buchanan.....	1896 to 1897.
James T. Harrison.....	1897 to 1898.
William Starling.....	1898 to 1899—Died Dec. 10, 1900.
John S. Cobb.....	1899 to 1900.
John A. B. Jones.....	1900 to 1901.
Harry T. Howard.....	1901 to 1902.
Oliver Lee McKay.....	1902 to 1903.
Robert Hiram Henry.....	1903 to 1904.
Frank Burkitt.....	1904 to 1905.
John Foggo Dixon.....	1905 to 1906.
DeB. Waddell.....	1906 to 1907.

Honorary Past Grand Commanders.

John Logan Power, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1891—Died Sept. 24, 1901.
John David Miles, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1892.
Gus J. Bahin, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1896.

STATUTES.

REPRESENTATION BY PROXY.

Section 1. All the elective officers of this Grand Commandery, all Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains-General who are members of Commanderies within this jurisdiction, and the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain-General of each Commandery, may appear and vote by proxy in the Grand Commandery, said proxy being at the time a member of the same Commandery as his principal, and producing a properly authenticated certificate of his appointment.

GRAND TREASURER.

Section 2.—The Grand Treasurer shall render to the Grand Commandery at each annual Grand Conclave a true and perfect account of all moneys received or disbursed by him, and such other accounts as may be required by the Grand Commander, from time to time and he shall only pay out any of the funds in his hands upon the warrant of the Grand Recorder, issued by order of and countersigned by the Grand Commander; and shall receive an annual salary of Fifty Dollars in full for his services.

GRAND RECORDER.

Section 3. The Grand Recorder shall receive and collect all the revenues of the Grand Commandery, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer at intervals of not more than thirty days after their receipt by him; he shall render an account to the Grand Commandery at each of its annual Grand Conclaves and to the Grand Commander as often as he may require, of all moneys received by him and paid over by him to the Grand Treasurer, showing the date, source and amount thereof, and he shall likewise report all the transactions of his office. And for his services he shall be paid an annual salary of Five Hundred Dollars.

CHARTER FEE.

Section 4. The fee for a Dispensation for a New Commandery shall be One Hundred Dollars, to be paid before the Dispensation issues, and there shall be no charter fee.

ANNUAL DUES.

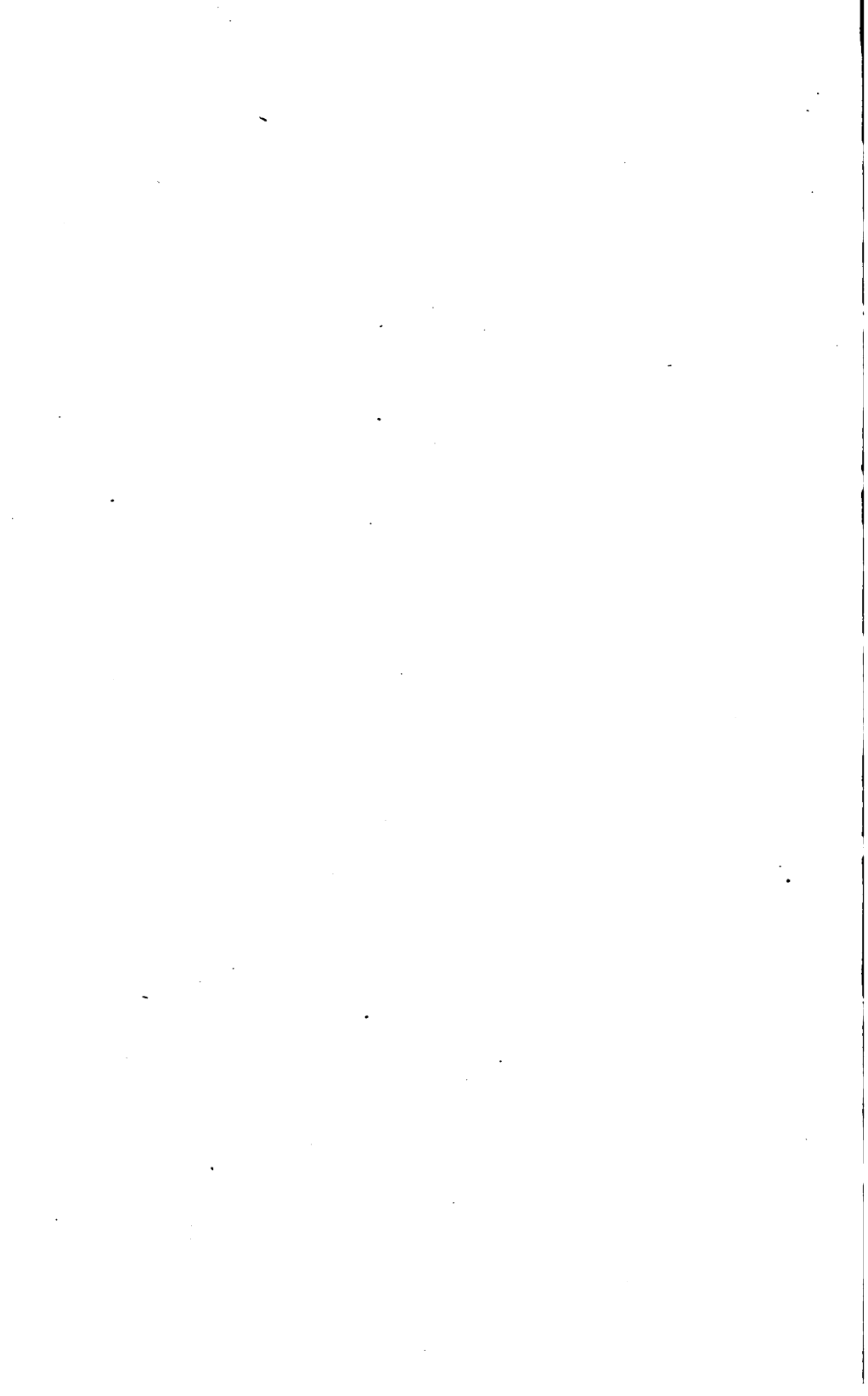
Section 5. There shall be paid by each Commandery when its annual return is sent in, for every Knight Templar created therein during the preceding year, the sum of Five Dollars, and at the same time for every member upon the roll of each Chartered Commandery, on the Festival of Stl John the Evangelist, the sum of One Dollar.

FEE FOR ORDERS.

Section 6. No Commandery shall confer the Orders of Knighthood for a less sum than Forty Dollars, which must accompany the petition, to be refunded to the candidate if he shall be rejected.

EXPENSES OF MEMBERS.

Section 7. The Grand Officers, Members of Standing Committees and the Eminent Commander, or his proxy, of each Commandery whose returns shall have been made and dues to the Grand Commandery paid, shall be reimbursed for their attendance, to the extent of their actual expenses, excluding all compensation paid in other Masonic Grand bodies, meeting during the same week and at the same place.



SYNOPSIS

—OF—

TEMPLAR LAW,

Applicable to Chartered Commanderies,

—BY—

FREDERIC SPEED, P.G.C.

AFFILIATION.

Only affiliated Lodge and Chapter Masons are eligible for the Orders, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 6, Statutes, Sec. 2, Title 23 and Title 35.

APPEAL.

There is no appeal to the Commandery from the decision of the Commander, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 4.

ASSESSMENTS.

Pro rata assessments may be levied in addition to annual dues, by a majority vote. Con. Art. 4, Sec. 10 and Statutes Sec. 1, Title 6.

BY-LAWS.

Chartered Commanderies are invested with power to make by-laws, St. Sec. 1, T. 10; which must be approved by the Grand Commandery, St. Sec. 2, T. 10 and amendments can only be made in the mode prescribed by them and with like approval, Sec. 3, T. 10.

CANDIDATE.

QUALIFICATIONS OF—

A candidate must be a Royal Arch Mason, and affiliated in Lodge and Chapter, Con. Sec. 6, Art. 4, St. Sec. 2, T. 23, and no qualifications can be added to these. Sec. 2, T. 29.

BALLOT—

Committee must report before, St. Sec. 8, T. 39, and there can be no ballot in less than two weeks, without a dispensation, St. Sec. 1, T. 7; it must be unanimous, St. Sec. 2, T. 7; every member present must vote, unless excused, St. Sec. 3, T. 7. A second may be taken before result is recorded, when good cause is shown, before any member has left Asylum, St. Sec. 4, T. 7. Mistake can only be corrected by dispensation, St. Sec. 5, T. 7, but not after candidate has been declared rejected and result recorded. St. Sec. 6, T. 7.

COMMITTEE—

Must report before ballot, St. Sec. 8, T. 39, in writing but character of report must not be recorded, St. Sec. 10, T. 39. An unfavorable report does not dispense with a ballot. St. Sec. 11, T. 39.

JURISDICTION—

Extends half way to the nearest Commandery by direct line and orders cannot be conferred upon one residing in the jurisdiction of another Commandery, without first obtaining its permission. When a petition is received from a sojourner or one who has not resided six months within the jurisdiction of a Commandery, the consent of Commandery within whose jurisdiction the petitioner has resided, must be obtained. A Commandery may waive jurisdiction. A rejected candidate cannot be received by another Commandery in less than three years after such rejection and after three years residence, without the unanimous consent by ballot, of the rejecting Commandery. A Commandery has penal jurisdiction over all K. T's within its jurisdiction, St. T. 29. Orders may be conferred at the request of another Commandery. St. T. 38.

NONAFFILIATE—

Orders not to be conferred on, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 4, St. Sec. 2, T. 23 and T. 35.

OBJECTION—

May be made to conferring Red Cross on candidates without giving reasons, but charges must be made and sustained when the further progress of a Red Cross Knight is objected to. A visitor may object or prefer charges, but they must be considered by a majority vote, unless a member makes them his own by adopting them. St. T. 37.

PETITION—

Must show Lodge and Chapter in which degrees were conferred and also those in which membership is held; that there has been no previous rejection, and a belief in the Christian religion. St. Sec. 1, T. 39. It must be signed in person, state name, date of birth, residence and occupation, and received only at a Stated Conclave. St. Sec. 3, T. 39. Two cannot sign the same petition. St. Sec. 4, T. 39, and two members must vouch and recommend. St. Sec. 5, T. 39. It must be to the nearest Commandery to residence of petitioner. St. Sec. 6, T. 39, and cannot be withdrawn unless for want of jurisdiction. St. Sec. 9, T. 39. It can be received and balloted only at a Stated Conclave and not in less than two weeks, without a dispensation. Con. Art. 4, Sec. 3. If rejected it cannot be renewed in less than six months and then only if petitioner is still residing in the jurisdiction of the Commandery; if he has removed, then not within three years from rejection and after three years residence within the jurisdiction of the Commandery to which it is renewed. St. Sec. 15, T. 39 and Sec. 4, T. 38.

PROFICIENCY—

If candidate can give all the signs and go through all the ceremonies (of preceding degrees) he is eligible. St. T. 41.

SOJOURNER—

Orders are not to be conferred on a, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 4.

CEREMONIES.

Commanderies close, not adjourn or call off. St. Sec. 1, T. 5.

CHARTER.

Every Commandery must have a charter and not communicate with any body not chartered, Con. Art. 4, Secs. 1 and 2; the Commander is

the custodian of it, St. Sec. 4, T. 13, which must be present at every Conclave, St. Sec. 6, T. 13. It cannot be surrendered if nine members wish to retain it, St. Sec. 7, T. 13. Forfeiture does not effect standing of members, St. Sec. 3, T. 23. It must be arrested if no Conclave is held for twelve months, St. Sec. 19, T. 12, but if suspended by Grand Commander, membership is not effected, St. Sec. 1, T. 11.

CONCLAVE.

Stated Conclaves must be held at least quarterly, at such time and place as may be specified in charter or by-laws; Special Conclaves may be called by Commander, but no business transacted except that specified in notice or summons, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 3. Commanderies close, not adjourn, or call off to meet another day for business, St. Sec. 1, T. 5, and Sec. 25, T. 12. All business must be transacted in Asylum at Stated Conclaves only, or at Special, when notice is given of the business to be done; but arrangements for a funeral may be made at Special Conclave, St. Sec. 1, T. 8. The charter must be present, St. Sec. 6, T. 13. A Commandery must meet in the place named in its charter, but may remove from one house to another, by a vote, after notice to members, and temporarily, in case Asylum is unfit for use, by dispensation of Grand Commander, St. T. 31. Failure to meet for twelve months, charter arrested, St. Sec. 18, T. 12. A quorum is nine members entitled to vote, St. T. 42.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications between Commanderies of different Grand Commanderies, must be through Grand Commanders, St. Sec. 2, T. 14. Complaints and correspondence must be through Commander to Grand Commander, but may be direct; if he refuses to transmit it, St. Sec. 4, T. 14. A K. T. desiring information, should apply to Commander and he to Grand Commander, St. T. 27.

DECISIONS.

Of Grand Commander are binding as soon as known, St. Sec. 1, T. 16.

DIMIT.

Is to be granted upon request, in writing, without a vote, if dues are paid and no charges pending, St. Secs. 1 and 2, T. 17. A certificate given to a K. T. restored to good standing, is equivalent to a dimit, St. Sec. 13, T. 48.

DUES.

A Commandery has a right to collect such annual dues and pro rata assessments as may be needed to pay the expenses, to be determined by a majority vote, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 10, St. Sec. 1, T. 18. The by-laws may provide that members two years in arrears shall be ineligible to office and not entitled to vote, if disfranchised by a trial, St. Secs. 4 and 5, T. 18. None can be suspended for non-payment of dues, without notice and an opportunity to be heard, and there must be a vote, whether there is an appearance or not, St. Secs. 6 and 7, T. 48.

ELECTION.

The Commander, Generalissimo, Captain-General, Treasurer and Recorder must be elected and other officers elected or appointed as by-laws provide, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 2. Officers hold over until successors are installed, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 5. The Grand Commander may authorize a special election to fill vacancies in any office except where there is a con-

stitutional right of succession and when there is a written request by the Commandery, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 12. (3) Election must be by ballot and blanks are not votes, St. Secs. 1 and 2, T. 19. A K. T. cannot be forced to accept office, St. Sec. 1, T. 36. Only election and term of service entitles an officer to prefix of "Past," St. T. 50.

FEES.

The fees for the Orders cannot be remitted, St. Sec. 1, T. 8, or be less than \$30.00, Con. Art. Sec. 10.

FUNERAL.

Arrangements for a, may be made at a Special Conclave, St. Sec. 1, T. 8, and the ceremony of the Grand Encampment must be used, St. Sec. 1, T. 9. Unaffiliated are not entitled to funeral honors, St. Sec. 2, T. 9. Commandery may escort a Lodge at funeral, but not unless there is a Masonic ceremony, St. Sec. 3, T. 9, and they cannot attend other than a Knight Templar's funeral, St. Sec. 4, T. 9.

HEALING.

Is re-obligating and correcting what has been done amiss and may be by a Commandery, if it is authorized by the Grand Commandery, but a clandestine cannot be, St. T. 26.

INSTALLATION.

Officers may be installed by a member of the Grand Encampment, by either of the first four officers of the Grand Commandery, by the Commander or a Past Commander, but if by a Past Officer, the Commander must be present to arrange, or his proxy produced. The ceremony must be that prescribed by Grand Encampment. Officers cannot be installed by proxy but re-elected officers need not be re-installed. Installation may be public if in an Asylum but if in other place a dispensation is required, St. T. 28.

MEMBERSHIP.

Those who receive the Orders in a Commandery are members, unless Orders were conferred for another Commandery, St. Sec. 1, T. 33. One cannot be a member of two Commanderies, St. Sec. 5, T. 33. There are no jurisdictional requirements for membership, St. Sec. 11, T. 33. Every member must be a member of a Lodge and Chapter, but Templar honors may however, be given or withheld a non-affiliate Templar, St. T. 35. Members have a right to know all the transactions of their Commanderies, St. Sec. 1, T. 4, but can have but one vote, St. T. 55. Forfeiture of Charter does not affect standing of members, St. Sec. 3, T. 23. Suspended member is restored by a majority vote to good standing but it requires a unanimous vote to restore to membership, St. Sec. 9, T. 48. Expelled member is restored to Order by a two-thirds vote, but it requires a unanimous vote to restore to membership, St. Secs. 10 and 11, T. 18. Restoration by body suspending, expelling or striking from the roll, restores to membership in Commandery, even if Commandery afterwards suspended or expelled in consequence of Lodge or Chapter action, St. Sec. 12, T. 48. Honorary membership may be conferred but it does not give a right to vote or rank, or create a liability for dues, or deprive him of duties of active membership, or relieve him of dues, St. Secs. 7 and 8, T. 33. Life membership may be created, St. Sec. 8, T. 33. If a Grand Commandery restores a suspended or expelled member to good standing merely, he is given a certificate by the Grand Recorder, St. Sec. 6, T. 3, which is equivalent to a dimit, St. Sec. 13, T. 48.

MINUTES.

Must be read and corrected at close of conclave, and read, corrected and approved at next Stated Conclave and signed by the Recorder, St. T. 34.

NONAFFILIATE.

Templar honors may be given or withheld a nonaffiliate Templar, but every Templar must be a member of a Lodge and Chapter, St. T. 35.

OFFICERS.

GRAND COMMANDER—

Cannot be officer of a Commandery, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 12. Decisions of, are binding as soon as known, St. Sec. 1, T. 15. Must be communicated with through Commander, St. Sec. 4, T. 14. Decides when a Commandery may appear in public and they must not do so, except at funerals or to attend divine service, without his dispensation, St. Sec. 21, T. 12. He may suspend a Commandery but not its members, St. Sec. 1, T. 2.

COMMANDER—

Is to see by-laws and resolutions obeyed, records accurately kept, returns made and dues paid, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 6; has casting vote and there is no appeal from decision of, to Commandery, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 4; must take vow of office, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 9; is custodian of charter, St. Sec. 4, T. 13; complaints and correspondence with Grand Commander, must pass through; unless he refuses to forward, St. Sec. 4, T. 14, St. T. 27; debate ceases when he rises, St. Sec. 1, T. 15; can only be tried by Grand Commandery, St. Sec. 2, T. 11; cannot resign, St. Sec. 2, T. 45; becomes a Past Commander at expiration of term of his office, although he may have removed from State, St. Sec. 5, T. 43; Grand Commander cannot be officer of Commandery, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 12. The Generalissimo and Captain-General, succeed in absence or death of Commander, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 12; in absence, death or disability of Commander, Captain-General and Generalissimo, Past Commanders according to seniority of service assume the office and discharge the duties of Commander, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 7. Commander is entitled to the prefix of "Past" only when his term of service expires, St. T. 50.

RESIGN—

Neither of first three officers can resign, St. Sec. 2, T. 45.

RECORDER—

The Recorder issues summons and notices, attends Conclaves, keeps minutes, collects moneys, has charge of seal, makes returns, remits Grand Commandery dues, submits books to be examined and gives bond, Con. Art. 3, Secs. 9 and 10.

TREASURER—

The treasurer is subject to by-laws; gives bond, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 8.

VOW OF OFFICE—

Officers must take, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 9.

PARLIAMENTARY LAW.

Commander has casting vote, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 4. Debate ceases when Commander rises, St. Sec. 1, T. 15. Member cannot have but one

vote, except presiding officer, who has casting vote in addition to individual vote, and all questions are decided by majority, St. T. 55.

PROCEEDINGS.

Members have right to know transactions, St. Sec. 1, T. 42.

QUORUM.

A quorum in all Templar bodies is nine members entitled to vote, and in absence of, no business can be transacted, St. T. 42.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE.

Grand Commander decides when a Commandery may appear in public, St. Sec. 24, T. 12, except at funerals or to attend divine service, for which no dispensation is required, St. Sec. 21, T. 12. And when they do, it must be in uniform, St. Sec. 23, T. 12.

RANK.

Senior Past Commander present, who is a member, outranks all others, without reference to where he acquired title, St. Sec. 3, and Sec. 7, T. 43. According to Seniority, succeed first three officers, in absence, death or disability of, Con. Art. 3, Sec. 7. Election and term of office only entitles officer to prefix of "Past," St. T. 50. Present officers outrank Past of any grade, St. Sec. 3, T. 43. Installation is necessary to confer rank, St. Sec. 2, T. 43.

RED CROSS.

Red Cross may be communicated to a foreigner not having it, St. Sec. 1, T. 22, and must be conferred before Templar Order, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 8. Baldric reversed, cap with Templar, not Passion, cross or covered, sword and white gloves to be worn when conferring. S. M. wears royal robes and Prelate those of H. P., St. Sec. 6, T. 52. Commandery may adopt by-law requiring R. C. Kt. to procure Templar uniform before conferring that order upon him, St. Sec. 7, T. 52.

RITUAL.

Ritual of Grand Encampment cannot be altered or abridged, St. T. 46. Orders must be conferred: 1. Red Cross. 2. Knight Templar. 3. Malta, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 8.

SEAL.

Seal can be affixed to all papers legally issued, St. Sec. 2, T. 47.

STANDING.

Suspension or expulsion deprives of membership and all rights and privileges while it continues, whether inflicted by Lodge, Chapter or Commandery, St. Secs. 1 and 2, T. 48, and Sec. 1, T. 23. Standing is that of Lodge and Chapter, St. Sec. 1, T. 23. Forfeiture of charter does not affect standing of membership, St. Sec. 3, T. 23. Suspension of Commandery does not affect membership therein, St. Sec. 1, T. 11.

SUMMONS.

Newspaper notice is not legal summons, it must be by personal service, left at residence, place of business, or mailed, St. Sec. 3, T. 49.

TRIAL.

PROCEDURE—

A trial must be in open Commandery presided over by ranking officer, who decides all questions of law and evidence and must be conducted as prescribed in the "Forms" enacted by the Grand Encampment, St. Sec. 1, T. 51. A committee takes depositions of all witnesses who cannot be examined in open Commandery, but it cannot try the accused, digest the testimony, or report its conclusions, St. Secs. 3 and 4, T. 51.

APPEALS—

Any suspended or expelled Templar can appeal to the Grand Commandery, St. Sec. 1, T. 3, not to the Grand Commander, St. Sec. 2, T. 3, but an appeal does not suspend the judgment, Sec. 3, T. 3, and if abandoned leaves it in force, St. Sec. 4, T. 3. The judgment of a Grand Commandery cannot be appealed from to the Grand Encampment, unless a question is raised involving the Constitution or laws of the Grand Encampment, St. Sec. 10, T. 3.

REVERSAL—

A judgment reversed, restores to good standing, St. Sec. 5, T. 3.

RESTORATION—

Suspended or expelled K. T. may be restored by petition, which may be acted upon at once, St. Sec. 10, T. 33. To good standing does not regain membership, St. Sec. 6, T. 3. Expelled member restored to Order by two-thirds vote, to membership by unanimous, St. Secs. 10 and 11, T. 48. By body suspending, expelling or striking from roll, restores to membership in Commandery, even if Commandery afterwards suspended or expelled, in consequence of Lodge or Chapter action, St. Sec. 12, T. 48. A certificate should be given to K. T. restored, which is equivalent to a dimitt, St. Sec. 13, T. 48. Suspended member of Commandery restored by a majority vote to good standing in Order, but a unanimous vote is required to restore to membership, St. Sec. 9, T. 48.

SUSPENSION BY LODGE OR CHAPTER—

If certificate of suspension or expulsion from Lodge or Chapter is not filed, the fact may be proven orally, if jurisdiction is shown, St. Secs. 3 and 4, T. 48. Commandery cannot go behind record of Grand Lodge or Chapter on questions of jurisdiction, St. Sec. 5, T. 48.

MODIFICATION OF JUDGMENT—

Judgment may be modified by Grand Commandery, St. Sec. 7, T. 3.

COUNSEL—

Accused may have counsel or argue his own case, even if expelled by Commandery, St. Secs. 8 and 9, T. 3.

COMMANDER—

Can only be tried by Grand Commandery, St. Sec. 2, T. 2.

UNIFORM.

Baldric reversed, cap with Templar cross, not Passion cross or covered, sword and white gloves to be worn when conferring Red Cross. Sovereign Master wears royal robes and Prelate High Priest Robes, St. Sec. 6, T. 52. Commandery may adopt by-law requiring Red Cross Knight to equip himself as Templar before giving him the Order, St. Sec.

7, T. 52. Uniform is prescribed by Grand Commandery, except insignia of rank, but shoulder straps are limited to officers and Past officers, St. Secs. 2 and 5, T. 52.

VISITOR.

Visitor cannot be admitted over objection of member, unless he visits in official capacity, and objection may be made in open Commandery or privately to Commander, but reasons cannot be demanded, St. Sec. 1, T. 54. Visitor must be examined in all preceding degrees, as well as Orders, so far as not vouched for, St. Sec. 2, T. 54.

VOW OF OFFICE.

All officers must take, Con. Art. 4, Sec. 9.

MASONIC PERIODICALS.

American Tyler.....	Ann Arbor, Mich.
Australian Freemason.....	Melbourne, Australia
Freemason.....	Toronto, Canada.
Globe.....	Gravette, Ark.
Illinois Freemason.....	Bloomington, Ill.
Masonic Advocate.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
Masonic Constellation.....	St. Louis, Mo.
Masonic News.....	Peoria, Ill.
Masonic Observer.....	Minneapolis, Minn.
Masonic Standard.....	1133 Broadway, New York
Masonic Square.....	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Masonic Tidings.....	Milwaukee, Wis.
Masonic Token.....	Portland, Maine
Masonic Voice and Review.....	Chicago, Ill.
Missouri Freemason.....	St. Louis, Mo.
New England Craftsman.....	Boston, Mass.
Revista Masonic Mexicana.....	Guadalajara, Mexico
Square and Compass.....	New Orleans, La.
Tennessee Mason.....	Nashville, Tenn.
Texas Freemason.....	San Antonio, Texas
Trowel.....	Little Rock, Ark.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

1905-1906.

NAME.	MEMBERS, 1904.	KNIGHTED.	ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP.	REINSTATED.	GAIN.	DIMITTED.	DISFRANCHISED.	SUSPENDED U. M. C.	EXPULSED U. M. C.	DIED.	LOSS.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
Aberdeen.....	39	5	.....	.....	5	1	.....	.....	.....	2	3	41
Coahoma	26	6	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	31
Cyrene.....	159	19	.....	.....	19	.....	1	.....	.....	6	7	171
DeMolay.....	41	1	.....	.....	1	1	4	.....	.....	5	.....	37
Delta	41	.....	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	3	39
Edwards.....	30	4	1	.....	5	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	33
Greenwood.....	23	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	2	4	20
Hattiesburg.....	50	17	2	.....	19	.....	3	.....	.....	3	6	63
Holly Springs.....	40	3	.....	.....	3	1	4	.....	.....	1	6	37
Ivanhoe.....	79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	3	9	* 70
Lexington.....	38	14	.....	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52
Macon	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Magnolia.....	61	4	.....	1	5	2	2	.....	.....	4	†	62
Mississippi.....	40	1	.....	2	3	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	41
Rosalie.....	57	11	.....	.....	11	2	1	.....	.....	3	.....	65
Mary Savery.....	44	1	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45
St. Cyr.....	81	3	.....	2	5	2	2	.....	.....	1	7	81
St. Elmo.....	64	1	.....	.....	1	.....	7	.....	.....	7	.....	58
The Coast.....	26	10	.....	.....	10	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	35
West Point.....	43	7	.....	2	9	1	2	.....	.....	1	4	48
Yazoo.....	32	15	.....	.....	15	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	46
	1034	123	4	7	133	17	33	.....	.....	19	68	1098

Net Gain.....55.

* Error, one last year.

† Error, one last year, one insane.

Returns of Commanderies.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1905.

Including Officers for 1906.

ABERDEEN COMMANDERY, No. 17.—ABERDEEN, MONROE COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th Thursday of each month.

A. Clarence Lowe, P.E.C.....Com.	J. W. Eckford, P.E.C.....Treasurer
J. L. Shell, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	H. C. Hamilton.....Recorder
P. W. Lusk.....C. G.	E. W. Holmes.....St. Bearer
Wm. Kimmel, P.E.C.....S. W.	G. S. Clopton, P.E.C.....Sw. Bearer
W. G. Sykes, P.E.C.....J. W.	J. M. Higgason.....Warder
E. G. Smith.....Prelate.	.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Wiley H. Clifton, J. J. McDonald, L. G. Nesbit.

MEMBERS.—Hugh Alexander, R. L. Bartholomew, H. L. Blankenbaker, L. A. Bodene, J. A. Bowen, W. O. Butler, R. L. Caden, Eugene C. Dalrymple, C. W. Green, Joseph Ham, T. B. Holmes, W. S. Lindawood, R. R. Love, J. A. Mayfield, C. C. Medley, J. H. Murphy, J. C. Park, M. P. Reed, S. J. Riggan, C. T. Schubert, H. C. Stevenson, C. L. Sykes, W. C. Sykes, Robert P. Wendell, D. Y. Wesson, Edgar Wilson, Henry D. York.—Total 41.

KNIGHTED.—Hugh Alexander, Eugene C. Dalrymple, S. J. Riggan, H. C. Stevenson, Henry D. York.

DIMITTED.—R. P. Clack.

DIED.—Franklin P. Jenkins, P.G.C., April 10, 1905. S. H. Berg, April 17, 1905.

COAHOMA COMMANDERY, No. 22.—CLARKSDALE, COAHOMA COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Tuesday of each month.

John S. Brooks.....Com.	J. H. Johnson.....Treasurer
E. M. Fant.....Gen'o.	Ellington Fant.....Recorder
S. Frederic Carr.....C. G.	W. P. Moore.....St. Bearer
W. G. Beanland.....S. W.	T. A. Carder.....Sw. Bearer
M. J. Boulden.....J. W.	A. T. Butler.....Warder
W. E. Dickey.....Prelate.	W. M. Moore.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—Joseph J. Brooks.

MEMBERS.—G. W. Butler, Jr., J. B. Chism, John T. Cox, J. W. Custer, M. E. Denton, W. E. Dickey, Jr., H. W. FitzGerald, Jr., R. B. Hebdon, F. L. Hope, R. B. Logan, J. T. Longino, J. W. Mack, B. T. Markette, John H. McCraney, C. E. McDaniel, T. H. McKenzie, Jacob Thompson, W. C. Weathersby.—Total 31.

KNIGHTED.—W. G. Beanland, M. J. Bouldin, T. A. Carder, W. E. Dickey, Jr., W. H. FitzGerald, Jr., W. M. Moore.

DIED.—J. T. Mills.

CYRENE COMMANDERY, No. 9,—MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Thursday night of each month.

J. W. Hagemeyer.....Com.	Edwin J. Martin, P.C.....Treasurer
P. A. Broach.....Gen'o.	Andrew J. Peck...H.P.E.C...Recorder
Allen G. McCants.....C. G.	Walter G. Hodges.....St. Bearer
DeB. Waddell, P.C., D.G.C...Prelate.	Percy L. Marsh.....Sw. Bearer
Walker P. Broach.....S. W.	George A. Baxter.....Warder
M. M. Klein.....J. W.	David A. Ray.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—James M. Buchanan, P.G.C., G. Smalshaf, O. A. Harrison, Benjamin V. White, Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C., J. H. Stoltzfus, Melvin R. Grant, Robert E. Moody, Frank E. Smith, Henry F. Roach, Jr.,

MEMBERS.—B. J. Allen, A. B. Amis, William J. Anderson, E. A. Archer, Samuel N. Askew, Pierce B. Barnett, T. K. Barefield, W. E. Baskin, T. A. Baucum, E. S. Bostick, William L. Bostick, A. S. Bozeman, F. D. Bradley, F. N. Brahan, C. Y. Brandan, James W. Brewster, E. E. Broach, Walter E. Broach, F. W. Bross, Edward Burckel, Charles T. Burt, S. B. Burr, Adam M. Byrd, Wm. D. Cameron, Charles M. Card, William R. Card, B. J. Carter, Wade S. Carter, Cyrus P. Chambers, Isaac Champenois, C. C. Coffee, J. Warren Collins, N. M. Collins, R. A. Collins, P. A. Crook, Charles H. Dabbs, William A. Daniel, C. W. Doughtie, J. R. Dowdle, I. S. Downs, William H. Duff, John R. Ellis, Charles Elmire, M. P. Feazell, Sidney J. Ferguson, Edgar A. Foster, C. D. Frankinson, Edward J. Gallagher, Philip S. Gardiner, Tucker Gilmore, C. L. Gray, Henry Sabe Gunn, John S. Hale, Robert P. Hall, William T. Halsell, W. B. Harberson, John H. Harris, A. T. Harvey, James C. Haugh, W. G. Hayes, D. G. Hodges, George Hoefle, T. B. Holloman, Samuel M. Houston, A. L. Hoyer, Charles W. Hoyer, Clarence R. Hoyer, Horace W. Hoyer, John H. Howell, Albert C. Hulett, Frank A. Hulett, J. T. Iglehart, Thomas M. Jackson, J. S. Jenkins, William H. Johnson, J. E. Jones, Watson E. Jones, William N. Jones, John Kemper, J. E. Kennedy, Charles Kramer, P. J. Krouse, Austin E. Ledyard, Robert K. Lee, Charles R. Lewis, John K. Logan, T. C. Lyle, H. C. Majure, Edwin M. Martin, W. K. Mashburn, Walter Meed, J. N. Melton, Henry G. Meyer, Charles B. Middlebrook, C. C. Miller, Edwin A. Miller, Irvin Miller, John G. Minniece, James T. Moore, Joshua T. Moore, John Watson Moore, C. W. Morgan, B. J. Morrison, James E. Morrison, Samuel C. Mosley, J. M. McBeath, B. McClanahan, J. C. McClinton, J. W. McCorkle, Charles T. McCormick, William McCormick, B. McDade, Hugh McNeill, William McNeill, A. D. McRaven, William L. Owsley, W. B. Rogers, C. M. Rubush, J. H. Rush, Charles W. Schamber, S. A. Scruggs, George F. Sherwood, James H. Short, William G. Simpson, Henry Clay Smith, C. A. Stovall, A. T. Stuckey, John L. Stutz, R. H. Suttle, J. R. Tackett, E. E. Taylor, H. Thornton, J. A. Treadaway, James J. VanHoose, Robert H. VanHoose, D. U. Wadsworth, I. L. Wainwright, R. W. Wallace, Joseph O. Walton, Edward W. Walsh, William A. Warner, W. A. Webster, James William Wheeler, Floyd Willis, Samuel E. Wilson, Thomas H. Wright, R. J. Wright, William R. Wright, Conway C. Wyatt.—Total 171.

KNIGHTED.—T. K. Barefield, Pierce B. Barnett, William L. Bostick, William R. Card, Edgar A. Foster, John S. Hale, William T. Halsell, Thomas M. Jackson, Percy L. Marsh, William E. McCormick, William L. Owsley, William G. Simpson, A. T. Stuckey, E. E. Taylor, James J. VanHoose, William A. Warner, James William Wheeler, Floyd Willis, Thomas H. Wright.

DIED.—William H. Gallaspy, March 18, 1905; George B. Harper, April 10, 1905; Frank M. Keen, June 30, 1905; James A. Kelly, August 20, 1905; T. B. Lamb, March 2, 1905; M. W. Woodbury, November —, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—Percy L. Martin, suspended in Chapter.

DELTA COMMANDERY, No. 16.—GREENVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Monday of each month.

Emmet N. Thomas.....Com.	John B. Scruggs.....Treasurer
C. H. West.....Gen'o.	Charles A. Kinkead.....Recorder
J. P. Bailey.....C. G.	W. H. McClain.....St. Bearer
W. T. Steger.....S. W.	A. K. Burnett.....Sw. Bearer
E. G. Ham.....J. W.	A. B. Nance.....Warder
Robert Somerville.....Prelate	M. O. Shivers.....Sentinel

MEMBERS.—S. Archer, J. H. Baker, C. N. Bell, William C. Boyd, S. C. Buel, W. S. Clack, A. C. Cox, J. L. Davis, J. D. Duncan, W. B. Faison, J. P. Finlay, J. T. Green, W. P. Gresham, J. M. Hutsell, W. G. Jacquess, S. Y. Kerr, C. H. Millirons, C. C. Moody, J. C. Moorehead, S. J. Mulvaney, E. P. Odeneal, A. W. Oliver, J. A. Richardson, W. B. Roberts, C. H. Rock, A. J. Rose, A. H. Scott.—Total, 39.

ADMITTED.—E. G. Ham.

DIMITTED.—S. G. Jones.

DIED.—Edward L. Grady, August 11, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—S. F. Davis.

DEMOLAY, COMMANDERY, No. 8.—COLUMBUS, LOWNDES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Friday night of each month.

C. Lee Lincoln.....Com.	Malcolm A. Franklin.....Treasurer
Blanchard A. Weaver.....Gen'o.	Henry M. Waddell.....Recorder
Thomas B. Franklin.....C. G.	Walter Weaver.....St. Bearer
Charles C. Buder.....S. W.	William D. Prowell.....Sw. Bearer
Robert S. Curry.....J. W.	Willis Banks.....Warder
Hampden Osborne.....Prelate.	D. Stewart McClanahan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—James T. Harrison, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—John D. Askew, J. Sanders Billups, C. E. Boykin, Robert A. Carson, J. Walter Cooper, N. L. Davis, James M. Easton, J. Warren Gardner, Thomas W. Harris, Robert C. McClanahan, Percy W. Maer, James P. Martin, Charles W. Mills, Edward S. Moore, Willis N. Puckett, D. Deupree Richards, Nathaniel J. Rodgers, James P. Stansel, W. A. Steep, Joseph H. Stevens, William H. Taylor, James B. Thames, William E. Waring, William W. Westmoreland.—Total, 37.

KNIGHTED.—Robert Alexander Carson.

DIMITTED.—J. B. Randolph.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—Robert W. Hutchins, W. C. McCullar, J. Robert Mallery, G. B. Wilmot.

EDWARDS COMMANDERY, No. 26.—EDWARDS, HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3rd. Tuesday of each month.

William A. Montgomery.....Com.	William A. Dromgool.....Treasurer
Archibald M. McCallum.....Gen'o.	Thomas P. Martin, P.E.C.....Recorder
Daniel M. Chichester.....C. G.	H. Percy Birdsong.....St. Bearer
Walter R. Ward.....S. W.	Samuel D. Hewes.....Sw. Bearer
Alonzo J. Lewis, Jr.....J. W.	James B. Foster, P.E.C.....Warder
Joseph W. Campbell.....Prelate.	Thomas A. Chichester.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George S. Hunter.

MEMBERS.—Jacob Arni, Thomas H. Barrett, Mason Birdsong, Knight M. Brough, William M. Carstarphen, Charles P. Colmery, Nathaniel Flanagan, Calvin W. Gable, Charles E. Heitman; John L. Johnson, Jr., Harry M. Klingman, Edward Marsh, Clifton F. Mattis, Wallace E. McDougald, George C. McLaurin, Robert L. Peyton, John M. Ranch, William M. Robb, Sydney E. Thomas, Frank T. Smith.—Total, 33.

ADMITTED.—James B. Foster, P.E.C.

KNIGHTED.—Joseph W. Campbell, Charles E. Heitman, Alonzo J. Lewis, Jr., Edward Marsh.

DIMITTED.—Augustus H. Havenkott, Virgil D. Skipper.

GREENWOOD COMMANDERY, No. 24.—GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Wednesday of each month.

RETURN FOR 1904.

E. R. McShane, P.E.C.....Com.	W. T. Johnson.....Treasurer
R. S. McLemore.....Gen'o.	G. B. Stewart.....Recorder
D. S. Humphrey.....C. G.	S. L. Gwin.....St. Bearer
N. E. Whitehead, P.E.C.....S. W.	W. S. Barry.....Sw. Bearer
W. S. Vardaman.....J. W.	W. H. Stevens.....Warder
C. W. Crockett.....Prelate.	H. G. Kitchell.....Sentinel

MEMBERS.—C. Dunn, J. W. Greer, E. E. Kersh, Gid Montjoy, Jr., D. M. McGehee, M. C. Humphrey, J. D. Lanham, W. N. Majett, S. L. Rivers, C. S. Spencer, B. T. Sayer, W. S. Wingfield.—Total, 24.

KNIGHTED.—J. D. Lanham, R. S. McLemore.

GREENWOOD COMMANDERY, No. 24.—GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Wednesday of each month.

RETURN FOR 1905.

E. R. McShane.....Com.	W. T. Johnson.....Treasurer
M. C. Humphrey.....Gen'o.	G. B. Stewart.....Recorder
D. S. Humphrey.....C. G.	D. M. McGehee.....St. Bearer
C. Dunn.....S. W.	W. A. Barry.....Sw. Bearer
W. A. Vardaman.....J. W.	W. H. Stevens.....Warder
C. W. Crockett.....Prelate.	H. G. Kitchell.....Sentinel

MEMBERS.—J. W. Greer, E. E. Kersh, J. D. Lanham, Gid Montjoy, Jr., W. N. Majett, S. L. Rivers, C. S. Spencer, B. T. Sayer.—Total, 20.

DIED.—R. S. McLemore, November 25. N. E. Whitehead, P.E.C., March 25.

DISFRANCHISED.—A. L. Gwinn, W. A. Wingfield.

HATTIESBURG COMMANDERY, No. 21.—HATTIESBURG, PERRY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Monday evening of each month.

S. J. Pettigrew.....	Com.	S. E. Eaton.....	Treasurer
A. A. Montague.....	Gen'o.	J. W. Montague.....	Recorder
T. A. McElreath.....	C. G.	G. P. Smith.....	St. Bearer
A. V. Hays.....	S. W.	J. H. Kennedy.....	Sw. Bearer
J. W. Harper.....	J. W.	H. G. Lea.....	Warder
Walter M. Conner.....	Prelate.	W. A. Dozier.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—J. P. Carter.

MEMBERS.—H. E. Allen, A. C. Benners, J. O. Bolton, H. W. Boyd, J. D. Buchannan, J. M. Carter, A. E. Carmichael, R. N. Collins, O. W. Conner, R. S. Gottongin, S. E. Cowan, B. D. Currie, T. M. Curtis, M. Dunn, E. R. DuMont, G. M. D. Dennis, R. L. Dent, J. D. Donald, E. M. Ellis, R. S. Ellis, T. M. Ferguson, S. T. Garroway, I. L. Gaston, D. M. Gatlin, E. L. Gilliam, H. C. Greer, Walter Green, V. E. Hartzag, W. P. Haynes, R. H. Hemphill, R. W. Hinton, Sr., J. W. Howell, O. L. Mitchell, H. G. McCormick, H. M. McCullum, J. M. McInnis, A. H. McSwain, J. R. Mason, M. G. Norton, T. L. Odonald, J. A. Prestridge, C. L. Rice, T. E. Ross, V. M. Scanlon, J. D. Smith, C. O. Stevens, C. Z. Stevens, A. F. Thommason, S. E. Travis, J. F. Wilder.—Total 63.

ADMITTED.—J. M. Howell, T. A. McElreath.

KNIGHTED.—A. C. Benners, J. O. Bolton, H. W. Boyd, J. D. Buchanan, J. M. Carter, G. M. Dennis, R. L. Dent, J. D. Donald, V. E. Hartzag, R. W. Hinton, Sr., O. L. Mitchell, H. G. McCormick, J. R. Mason, T. L. Odonald, J. A. Prestridge, J. D. Smith, G. P. Smith.

DIED.—C. H. Congden, December 27, 1905, John McDuffy, February 25, 1905, W. R. McDonald, March 4, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—A. C. Lovell, J. G. Napier, J. E. Taylor.

HOLLY SPRINGS COMMANDERY, No. 4.—HOLLY SPRINGS, MARSHALL COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th Monday of each month.

Charles H. Wright.....	Com.	Robert A. McWilliams.....	Treasurer
Lester G. Fant.....	Gen'o.	Langston B. Mosby, P.E.C.....	Recorder
Paul E. Calme.....	C. G.	Wm. B. Bradberry, P.E.C.....	St. Bearer
Edward Clyde Wright.....	S. W.	D. M. Featherston, P.E.C.....	Sw. Bearer
Martin H. Leach, P.E.C.....	J. W.	P. E. Irby.....	Warder
R. H. B. Gladney.....	Prelate.	Henry W. Bryant.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—George C. Myers.

MEMBERS.—J. H. Alexander, James P. Alvis, Thomas L. Bennett, Alexander L. Bondurant, David T. Coward, Clarence S. Cullens, George F. Cullens, Harry L. Dix, Thomas F. Gaines, Arthur E. Graham, Wilber U. Hampton, William S. Hill, Tate Holland, John E. Holmes, Stanhope H. Logan, William A. McDonald, Newton J. Parker, Milford H. Rogers, James L. Simpson, James W. Stephenson, William M. Ticer, Thomas P. Willis, James L. Wilson, W. C. Wooten.—Total 36.

KNIGHTED.—Paul E. Calme, Lester G. Fant, Edward Clyde Wright.

DIMITTED.—B. T. Kimbrough.

DIED.—Benjamin L. Milam, April 3, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—Harvey D. Campbell, Samuel D. Hamilton, P.E.C., John R. Horton, Benjamin F. Popham.

IVANHOE COMMANDERY, No. 10.—OKOLONA, CHICKASAW COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 1st. and 3rd. Thursdays of each month.

Frank Burkitt, P.G.C.....	Com.	Z. T. Harper.....	Treasurer
James Gordon.....	Gen'o.	N. A. Love.....	Recorder
P. M. Savery, P.G.C.....	C. G.	Henry R. Hodges.....	St. Bearer
T. M. Walton.....	S. W.	J. H. Keeney.....	Sw. Bearer
Frank M. Elliott.....	J. W.	Ward Dawson.....	Warder
John M. Davis.....	Prelate.	Harry Arden.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—E. M. Walker, John S. Cobb, P.G.C., W. M. Buchanan, W. A. Bodenhammer, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—B. S. Allen, G. W. Anglin, J. L. Arnold, T. A. Boggan, C. W. Bolton, W. D. Brown, J. W. Buchanan, R. W. Chandler, W. J. Callow, George G. Dillard, J. M. Dodds, C. B. Evans, C. F. Faulkner, L. C. Feamster, B. B. Fitzpatrick, W. D. Frazee, W. H. Griffin, L. P. Haley, J. T. Harris, C. S. Harrell, W. I. Harrell, J. F. Harrell, J. G. Haughton, E. P. Hawkins, J. F. Hodges, C. B. Hood, J. D. Hunter, A. W. Johnson, C. R. King, V. C. Kincannon, J. R. Moore, W. C. Peeler, L. S. Pitts, H. L. Randolph, J. M. Reed, W. F. Riley, J. Q. Robbins, G. L. Russell, R. M. Sadler, J. D. Sansom, H. B. Stacy, W. G. Stovall, R. L. Tatum, W. S. Thompson, J. A. Thompson, J. U. Thomas, W. W. Trice, O. J. Trice, J. M. Walker, C. G. Walton, W. X. Wilson, J. R. Williams, T. A. Williams, T. H. Williams, V. Wright.—Total, 71.

DIED.—G. S. Henderson, August 2, 1905; J. A. Leach, May 22, 1905; John D. Smith, June 27, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—J. F. Garrett, E. J. Hall, B. McCullor, T. R. Shrimpsheer, R. L. Thomas.

LEXINGTON COMMANDERY No. 3.—LEXINGTON, HOLMES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. and 4th. Tuesdays of each month.

S. M. Smith, P.E.C.....	Com.	P. A. Lindholm.....	Treasurer
W. L. Jordan.....	Gen'o.	Parham Williams.....	Recorder
Augustus Lofstrom.....	C. G.	Thomas L. Barbour.....	St. Bearer
R. C. McBee.....	S. W.	H. W. Watson.....	Sw. Bearer
C. C. Phalen.....	J. W.	Walter K. Darden.....	Warder
T. W. Smith, P.E.C.....	Prelate.	Hillery E. White.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—C. Oltenberg, W. P. Tackett, Robert A. Stigler.

MEMBERS.—Walter M. Anderson, E. V. Ashley, S. D. Bailey, R. H. Baker, John Belford, J. T. Buck, H. E. Buck, Henry Christmas, Samuel M. Cox, J. B. Cunningham, Benjamin H. Dameron, John L. Dyson, R. C. Elmore, James F. Fuqua, Frederic M. Glass, D. H. Hobbs, Frederic Holmes, H. S. Hooker, James M. Jones, E. W. Jordan, J. W. Jordan, T. J. Jordan, B. W. Lipsey, Mark Love, Ross Love, W. W. Meek, Archibald W. McNeal, G. F. Nixon, E. F. Noel, William I. Pickens, I. B. Pickens, G. Crawford Reid, B. C. Seitzler, C. C. Swinney, J. H. Watson, William W. Wilburn, T. J. Wyatt.—Total, 52.

KNIGHTED.—Walter M. Anderson, Thomas L. Barbour, Henry Christmas, Samuel M. Cox, Benjamin H. Dameron, Walter K. Durden, Frederic M. Glass, Frederic F. Holmes, James M. Jones, Archibald W. McNeal, William Q. Pickens, G. Crawford Reid, Hillery E. White, William W. Wilburn.

MACON COMMANDERY, No. 25.—MACON, NOXUBEE COUNTY.

(No Return.).

MAGNOLIA COMMANDERY, No. 2.—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 1st. Thursday of each month.

William A. Stanton.....Com.	Geo. B. Hackett, P.E.C.....Treasurer
Frederic P. Fox.....Gen'o.	James K. Moore, P.E.C.....Recorder
Harry R. Austin.....C. G.	William Stanton*.....St. Bearer
Robert B. Chapman.....S. W.	W. O. Menger.....Sw. Bearer
Frederic Speed, P.G.C.....J. W.	George W. Crock.....Warder
Charles W. Hinton.....Prelate.	Linton R. Pinkston.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—John D. Miles, H.P.G.C.; James J. Hayes, P.G.C., Edward C. Carroll, William G. Kiger, Edward M. Moore.

MEMBERS.—James P. Anderson, Albert A. Arnold, George K. Birchett, Emile Bonelli, Richard K. Boney, Henry W. Bowen, Charles J. Bradley, James H. Brittain, John C. Bryson, John W. Clarke, Jr., Howard A. Covington, William Curphey, Henry P. Davis, Charles H. Fife, Conway C. Flowerree, Charles E. Gore, B. Whitfield Griffith, George G. Harris, Patrick Henry, James M. Hickman, Andrew J. Hood, Spencer S. Hudson, Alfred L. Jaquith, George M. Klein, William Balfour Klein, W. W. Lord, James J. Lum, John W. Mann, Chester R. McFarland, William J. McKee, William Murray, John Parkhurst†, Charles Pare, Alexander M. Paxton, Miller R. Payne, John C. Prichett, Albert G. Russell, William B. Schlottman, Murray F. Smith, John T. Smith, John T. Wells, J. C. White, James B. White, J. H. Woodruff, Charles G. Wright.—Total, 61.

KNIGHTED.—Harry R. Austin, Charles J. Bradley, Charles W. Hinton, William B. Schlottman.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—William B. Schlottman.

DIMITTED.—Mayre Dabney, James B. Foster.

DISFRANCHISED.—Charles E. Armstrong‡.

* Omitted in error in last return.

† Insane.

‡ Suspended, N. P. D., in Blue Lodge.

MARY SAVERY COMMANDERY, No. 14.—CORINTH, ALCORN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Friday night of each month.

W. W. Fitzgerald.....Com.	J. W. Zachary.....Treasurer
T. A. Read, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	J. P. Collier, P.E.C.....Recorder
Thomas B. Weaver.....C. G.	A. L. Johnsey.....St. Bearer
J. H. Collier.....S. W.	R. L. Young.....Sw. Bearer
A. K. Weaver.....J. W.	J. M. Dickey.....Warder
M. G. Milligan *.....Prelate.	C. W. McCord, Jr.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—R. M. Weaver, S. H. Curlee.

MEMBERS.—Morris B. Abbey, R. T. Adams, George H. Beemer, Henry C. Blakeslee, William H. Blythe, Samuel D. Bramlett, Mark T. Bynum, James R. P. Cameron, Thomas W. Cogdell, Austin Crouch, John B. Davis, W. S. Ennis, George Fannis, J. W. Giddens, James Huff, Mark Kershaw, Philip Kilpatrick, William J. Lamb, John W. McAnulty, S. B. Myers, Robert E. Nesbitt, Levi M. Phillips, William A. Robinson, M. D. Ross, E. P. Simmons, William E. Small, H. S. Spraggins, Charles M. Taylor, Ernest F. Waits, Edward W. Walton, Homer E. Walker, Herbert Young.—Total, 45.

KNIGHTED.—Thomas B. Weaver.

* Knighted 1904.

MISSISSIPPI COMMANDERY, No. 1—JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3rd. Monday night of each month.

George B. Power.....Com.	W. W. Lake.....Treasurer
A. P. Lusk.....Gen'o.	W. J. Brown, P.E.C.....Recorder
Thomas B. Sparks.....C. G.	A. C. Crowder.....St. Bearer
Garland G. Lyell.....S. W.	R. H. Henry, Jr.....Sw. Bearer
W. B. Taylor, P.E.C.....J. W.	R. V. Rachford.....Warder
D. E. Adkisson, P.E.C.....Prelate.	George F. Swann.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George Lemon, J. A. B. Jones, P.G.C., R. H. Henry, P.G.C., J. J. White, Joseph W. Power, M. Whitehead, J. A. Webb, Nolan Stewart, W. F. Wilcox.

MEMBERS.—L. H. Applegate, J. T. B. Berry, John W. Birdsong, H. A. Bourgeois, George R. Edwards, W. J. Ferguson, Thomas B. Graham, Richard Griffith, J. M. Hartfield, J. J. Haralson, Edward B. Lewis, F. C. Lotterhos, William P. Lowry, J. J. Payne, J. F. Robinson, C. D. Smith, J. M. Stringley, G. V. Toms, Henry L. Whitfield, William T. Williams.—Total, 41.

KNIGHTED.—George R. Edwards.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—H. A. Bourgeois, R. V. Rachford.

DIMITTED.—Wirt Adams, A. J. Chapman.

ROSALIE COMMANDERY, No. 5.—NATCHEZ, ADAMS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 4th. Thursday of each month from October to June.

William L. Wells.....Com.	George W. Koontz.....Treasurer
William N. McLean.....Gen'o.	Charles F. Merrick.....Recorder
James A. Harrington.....C. G.	James F. Hill.....St. Bearer
Edward M. Rauck.....S. W.	Gustave A. Wettlin.....Sw. Bearer
John A. Dicks, P.E.C.....J. W.	W. Cal. Brown.....Warder
Josiah B. Perry.....Prelate.	William C. Hathcox.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C., William G. Benbrook, P.G.C., Charles T. Chamberlain, Frank S. Shaw, Gus J. Bahin, Melchoir Beltzhoover, J. Foggo Dixon, G.C., James C. French, P.G.C., William B. Irvine, Louis A. Benoist.

MEMBERS.—J. Oscar Bailey, Samuel D. Baker, George M. Brown, James A. Clinton, Lemuel P. Connor, William C. Dobyns, Landry S. DuCote, James S. Fleming, Allison H. Foster, Edmund B. Geddes, Jessie B. Guice, Samuel P. Hornsby, William J. Kaiser, C. Henry Kiem, Herbert L. Klapp, Bernard H. Knoke, Rufus T. Learned, Louis R. Martin, Louis F. Muller, Thomas J. Murden, Henry McDermott, Seaborn McDowell, Andrew B. McElwee, Robert M. McGee, Clarence E. McLain, Stephen D. McNair, R. Lee Parker, Edward H. Prince, William H. Ratcliff, John A. Redmond, Lee A. Robinson, Walter Rutherford, Edmund Sadler, Edward M. Sessions, Joseph L. Sidensspinner, Hazen Steadman, Henry N. Street, Isaac L. Toler, Henry L. Turley, Matthew A. Tyer, Andrew B. Westmoreland, Frank E. Wilson, Moyn H. Wilkinson.—Total, 65.

KNIGHTED.—Andrew B. McElwee, Robert M. McGee, Clarence E. McLain, William N. McLean, Louis F. Muller, Josiah B. Perry, Edward M. Ranck, John A. Redmond, Edward M. Sessions, Joseph L. Sidensspinner, Andrew B. Westmoreland.

DIMITTED.—Martin Neihysel, Jeff. Truly.

DISFRANCHISED.—William H. Lynch.

ST. CYR COMMANDERY, No. 6.—WATER VALLEY, YALOBUSHA COUNTY

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Thursday of each month.

Robert W. Hellums.....Com.	Joel Croom, P.E.C.....Treasurer
George J. Robertson.....Gen'o.	Chas. E. Romberger, P.E.C.....Recorder
Samuel B. Brown, P.E.C.....C. G.	Frank S. Stewart.....St. Bearer
Frank B. DeShon.....S. W.	William B. Wagner.....Sw. Bearer
John H. Wagner.....J. W.	W. Scott Metcalfe.....Warder
Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.....Prelate.	Daniel W. McMillan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Henry M. Romberger, P.G.C., Wm. H. Price.

MEMBERS.—W. H. Askew, A. H. Bays, T. J. Binford, J. V. Blackmer, W. C. Blount, I. T. Blount, D. L. Boon, Earl L. Brewer, S. R. Cain, C. H. Campbell, R. Frank Cathey, William S. Cook, H. H. Creekmere, Edward F. Crisp, J. E. Daniels, L. W. Dekle, John E. DeLoach, E. Dunstan, H. A. English, George W. Fields, B. B. Ford, L. T. Fox, Harry Gibbons, A. C. Green, A. P. Gunthrop, D. H. Hollowell, O. H.

Haws, J. S. Hudson, M. W. Jackson, William James, A. E. Jennings, Frank H. Jones, Alexander Kennedy, J. S. Kettle, J. L. Kirby, J. J. Landreth, J. W. Lee, R. C. Leland, J. M. Leverette, M. A. Montgomery, W. E. Moring, E. M. Page, Charles T. Robinson, James B. Rogers, J. N. Rose, J. E. Rovira, J. L. Sisk, T. U. Sisson, F. H. Smith, A. T. Smith, B. Frank Tatum, B. F. Thomas, J. B. Tolbert, B. A. Tolbert, W. B. Vankirk, Daniel W. Wagner, W. L. Waldron, William Ward, William H. Watkins, Frank W. Weatherly, Homer Weir, William H. Whitaker, D. D. Wilkins, William C. Winter, W. O. Wood, John Wright, Edwin Wright.—Total, 81.

KNIGHTED.—Earl L. Brewer, W. Scott Metcalf, William H. Watkins.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—I. T. Blount, W. E. Moring.

DIMITTED.—F. M. McCarthy, T. H. Wilson.

DIED.—John K. Fulson, P.G.C., July 10, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—Paul Clanton, Frank E. Mills.

ST. ELMO COMMANDERY, No. 18.—BROOKHAVEN, LINCOLN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 2nd. Friday of each month.

John E. Seavey, P.C.....Com.	Ernest H. Wentworth.....Treasurer
William F. Parsons.....Gen'o.	Eugene McCormick, P.C....Recorder
J. Meredith Wood.....C. G.	Robert B. Stamps.....St. Bearer
Frank H. Fellows.....S. W.	Ira L. Parsons.....Sw. Bearer
Charles E. Grafton, P.C.....J. W.	Charles F. Henner.....Warder
Willard H. Seavey, P.C.....Prelate.	Zebulon P. Jones.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—George C. Hoskins.

MEMBERS.—J. B. Alford, Robert C. Applewhite, Larkin H. Baggett, David J. Batchelor, C. Ernest Batty, Samuel W. Berry, Isom V. Bowman, Stanley T. Byrd, Charles L. Carroll, W. E. Daggett, Frederic L. Davison, Z. Duncan Davis, W. T. Denman, Josiah B. Dougherty, Charles E. Dunbar, E. Ham Easterling, Duncan L. Easterling, J. Wesley Elliott, Daniel D. Ewing, H. R. Fine, Anthony Fly, William Gleason, Nicholas Greener, Samuel W. Hoskins, W. H. Jackson, J. N. Johnson, Frank M. Lee, F. E. Leng, H. Ellett Magee, Felix A. May, John M. Maynor, W. L. McConnico, L. W. McDaniel, W. Ernest Montgomery, Alfred E. Moreton, Hardy F. Mulliken, George W. Park, William O. Rea, W. W. Robertson, Manson L. Ryals, Harry A. Tibbs, T. O. Watkins, Leigh Watkins, Benjamin A. Williams, Samuel Wilkerson, Halbert Winborn.—Total, 46.

KNIGHTED.—H. R. Fine.

DISFRANCHISED.—A. Halbert Addison, Lee O. Bridewell, Sam G. Byrd, John D. Cull, Hugh McColgan, J. Arch McCormick, Frank Railsback.

THE COAST COMMANDERY, No. 19.—BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 3rd. Thursday of each month.

Thomas J. Rosell.....Com.	Theodore P. Dulion.....Treasurer
Edgar S. Balthrope.....Gen'o.	Henry J. Meaut.....Recorder
James J. Lemon, P.E.C.....C. G.	Walton G. Grayson.....St. Bearer
John C. Bradford, P.E.C.....S. W.	Charles W. Wachenfeld..Sw. Bearer
Ernest E. Clement, P.E.C.....J. W.	Walter T. Bolton.....Warder
Henry W. Vanhook.....Prelate.	Lewis R. Bowen, P.E.C.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Harry T. Howard, P.G.C., Thomas H. Gleason.

MEMBERS.—O. L. Bailey, George R. Burton, John Carraway, William K. M. Dukate, W. L. Dunham, Charles Falck, James G. Galloway, Joseph B. Garrard, William Gorenflo, John L. Hall, Nathan C. Hill, Charles D. Lancaster, William C. Linsey, William A. Murphy, James H. Neville, Colins Phelps, Joseph A. Tabor, J. L. Taylor, A. L. Thornton, Thomas H. Warren, Walter H. White.—Total, 35.

KNIGHTED.—Edgar S. Balthrope, George R. Burton, W. L. Dunham, James G. Galloway, Walton G. Grayson, John L. Hall, J. L. Taylor, A. L. Thornton, E. M. Vail, Henry W. Vanhook.

DIMITTED.—E. M. Vail.

WEST POINT COMMANDERY, No. 20.—WEST POINT, CLAY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, 1st. Monday night in each month.

William Johnson.....Com.	J. R. Brinker.....Treasurer
H. A. Linburger.....Gen'o.	D. A. Meek.....Recorder
H. C. Campbell.....C. G.	Robert McCreath.....St. Bearer
W. L. West.....S. W.	M. W. Chapman.....Sw. Bearer
Edward Joiner.....J. W.	C. S. Joiner.....Warder
A. N. Eshman.....Prelate.	B. Y. Rhodes.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—R. M. Trotter.

MEMBERS.—A. M. Augustine, J. K. Ballard, H. C. Barksdale, Charles Bridges, O. C. Brothers, Jr., W. H. Carlisle, Dove Cottrell, Frank A. Critz, Ellis Cromwell, Sidney A. Deans, J. T. Dunn, A. J. Evans, T. C. Exum, Jr., C. L. Foster, A. F. Fox, L. T. Ganes, J. L. Greenwell, F. G. Hawkins, J. W. Heard, J. C. Hubbert, J. W. McKee, J. L. Mell, J. H. Moore, F. H. Powers, J. N. Powers, A. W. Reynolds, S. E. F. Rose, W. S. Rhyne, J. H. Smith, J. J. Stevens, B. W. Stewart, Arthur Whittam, C. L. Wood.—Total, 48.

KNIGHTED.—J. K. Ballard, Charles Bridges, Sidney A. Deans, J. T. Dunn, J. L. Greenwell, J. L. Mell, J. N. Powers.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—A. M. Augustine, C. L. Wood.

DIMITTED.—Robert R. Ellis, P.E.C.

DIED.—J. R. Campbell, January 7, 1905.

DISFRANCHISED.—W. L. Barham, H. L. Joiner.

YAZOO COMMANDERY, No. 23.—Yazoo City, Yazoo County.

Regular Conclaves, 3rd. Tuesday of each month.

J. Barnett Ellis	Com.	Clifton Livingston	Treasurer
W. Augustus Scott	Gen'o.	Samuel S. Shipp*	Recorder
Robert C. Lynn	C. G.	A. Boling Ketty	St. Bearer
Hugh W. McCormick	S. W.	William S. Brown	Sw. Bearer
William Morford	J. W.	Edward H. Luke	Warder
W. G. Deles	Prelate.	William M. Moore	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—M. Leith Stigler, John S. Hord, P. Burrus Powell, James S. Perrin.

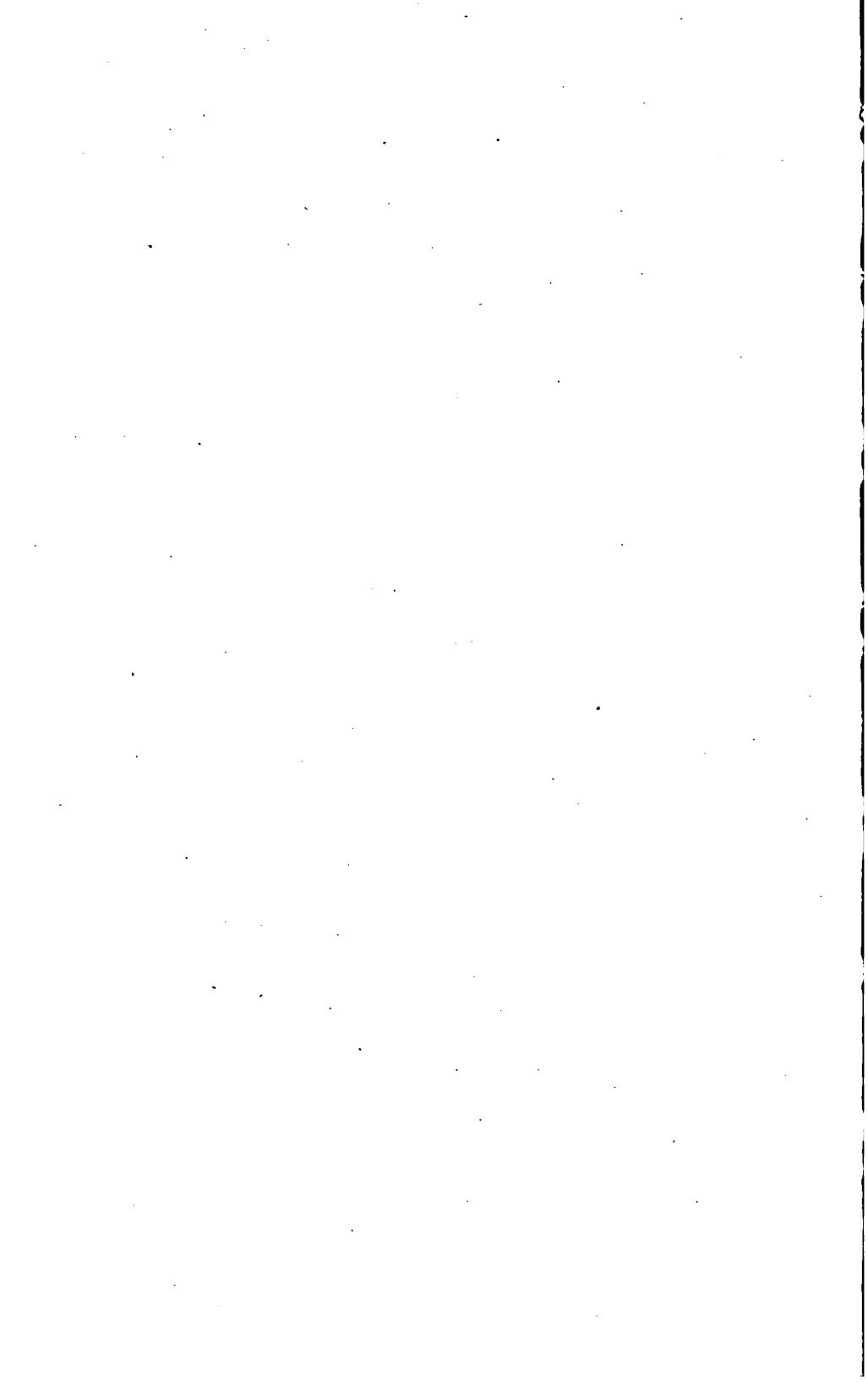
MEMBERS.—Bradford K. Bell, Samuel R. Berry, James H. Blanchard, Frank H. Blundell, Lee Boyd, A. B. Brooks, William A. Brown, Jr., Henry M. Cadenhead, Thomas H. Campbell, Jr., Robert H. Douthal, Horton Frizzell, Joseph W. George, Edward E. Harmon, Allen M. Hicks, Charles B. Holmes, J. Clifton Hollingsworth, Eugene J. Johnson, W. B. Lewis, Joseph W. Lockett, Jr., William D. Pugh, Joseph D. Roberts, Daniel H. Shipp, William T. Shirley, Robert H. Sorrells, Earl Stubblefield, H. Dixon Swayze, Henry Yardell Swayze, John B. Taylor, Robert Torry, John Sharp Williams.—Total, 46.

KNIGHTED.—James H. Blanchard, A. B. Brooks, William S. Brown, Thomas H. Campbell, Jr., Robert H. Douthal, Edward C. Harmon, Robert C. Lynn, Hugh W. McCormick, William M. Moore, William Morford, Daniel H. Shipp, William T. Shurley, Earl Stubblefield, H. Dixon Swayze, John B. Taylor,

DIMITTED.—J. Augustus Crisler.

—
* Deceased.





REPORT ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MISSISSIPPI:

The undersigned Reporter on Correspondence, courteously submits what follows as his report for the current term. It is possible that there have been reports, of this character, written that surpass this one, but we are inclined to doubt it. Read it, and as many others as you can pick up, and decide for yourselves. Here it is:

ALABAMA—1905.

The Forty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the City of Birmingham, May 10th, with R. E. Sir Charles R. Wescott, Grand Commander, presiding and E. Sir George A. Beauchamp at the Recorder's desk.

The first thing in order was a short welcoming address by Past Grand Commander Cunningham, in which we find no reference to "hospitality," which is pleasant. A short and rather good response was made by Deputy Grand Commander Teague, in which no reference is had to the early Templars, which is, also refreshing.

The Grand Commander's address is a short resume of an uneventful administration, in which, however, we find nothing of general interest. We note, with regret, that he lugs in the new word "Templarism," in his opening chorus, and against this we protest. The protest, however, will amount to nothing for the reason that the people of this age, like the Athenians of St. Paul's time, are always hunting for something new, without regard to what it is or whether it is proper, or not, more's the pity.

He decided that a Past Grand Commander who had removed from that jurisdiction, though in regular affiliation with the commandery in his new home, has lost all his rights, privileges and membership in the Grand Commandery that made him its first officer. The decision is correct, as the law is, but the law is wrong. So long as I am a member of a regular commandery, my rights in the Grand Body that created me its Grand Commander, should remain unimpaired.

He granted the usual batch of dispensations and for the same old purposes which was right and proper. His portrait embellishes the pamphlet; a good, strong face. The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, \$426.40, \$1,101.40, last year, which is accounted for by the Triennial at San Francisco. Total membership, 621, a gain of 75.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Covers only 24 pages and is the maiden effort of Sir John Herbert Phillips, in which he very briefly digests the minutes of 41 Templar legislatures, Mississippi at Jackson getting nearly as much as any of the balance, say one-third of a page. We copy his opening chorus: with the remark that the instruction of the Grand Recorder, was all wrong. Brevity is NOT the chief excellence of these reports. What our readers want is something to interest and keep them awake and if they do not get that they won't read them. Had our brother, John Herbert been turned loose and allowed to spread himself and the time to do it in, he would have gotten up a first class report, as we are sure from the specimen before us, he has the ability to do:

"In submitting this report I must request the courteous indulgence and knightly consideration usually granted a novice. In the performance of the task assigned me I have labored under peculiar limitations. The appointment came to me late in the Templar year, when professional duties gave me scant leisure to review as carefully as I should like the broad field of Templar Masonry. Thousands of pages I have read carefully and pleaurably,—thousands more I have scanned hurriedly. I feel also that, as the successor of Sir Knight George Fleming Moore, who is so admirably equipped by erudition and experience for this specific field, my labors may fall short of the expectations of my brethren.

"In the compilation of this report, I have received no official instruction or suggestion, except an intimation from our Grand Recorder that the chief virtue of a Templar reviewer is brevity. In conformity with this suggestion, it has been my aim to cull as much information as possible regarding the condition of the Order in the several jurisdictions, and to compress this information into the smallest possible space. On account of lack of time and space I have refrained from comment upon the decisions of Grand Commanders. Indeed, I fear that my report as it is will exceed the limits reserved for it in the proceedings.

We copy his entire review of our doings, because it suits us to do it:

February 20, 1905, the Forty-fifth Annual Conclave convened in the city of Jackson, Grand Commander Frank Barkit, presiding, and that prince among Knights and Masons, Frederic Speed, serving as Grand Recorder. Twenty-one Commanderies constitute the jurisdiction with a total membership of 1,034,—a net increase of 55 for the year. The report on Correspondence by Sir Knight Enoch George DeLap is perhaps the most facetious in the lot. He is not more considerate of this "bailiwick," as he chooses to call this jurisdiction, than he is of others. Indeed, he strikes us pretty hard at some tender points. While his language may not be always elegant, his words are never offensive. Sir George has succeeded admirably in one respect at least; he has contrived to put more of himself into the report than of the proceedings reviewed. This is not egotism but originality. We hope he may find time to visit this "bailiwick"; we want to cultivate his acquaintance. His story is interesting from beginning to end. The Grand Commander for the ensuing year is Sir Knight John F. Dixon, and Sir Knight Speed continues as Grand Recorder.

It is barely possible that if ever our Brother Burkitt gets a sight of him, he will go for his scalp for calling him "Barkit," unless he can charge the mistake up to the "intelligent compositor," where it doubtless

belongs. Frank is a printer himself and knows how the thing works. He is, also, a great "barker," but that is not his name.

We are obliged to our brother for his kind attention to us and those we love, and bid him a hearty welcome into the family of "Mutuals."

We copy his "Conclusion" entire, because it is first class and shows the calibre of the man:

In concluding this hurried survey of the great field of Templar Masonry, I am conscious of the inadequacy of my report. Although handicapped by the limited time at my disposal for my first work at this illustrious Round Table, I close my work with feelings of pleasure and gratification. In my review of the work of Templar Masonry, I have been impressed with the vigor and enthusiasm with which the work is prosecuted in all the jurisdictions. On every page may be found evidence of devotion and consecration to a worthy cause. This abundantly accounts for the prosperity of the Order. In nearly every jurisdiction we find a healthy growth. Twenty-six new Commanderies were founded during the year, and an increase of more than nine thousand in membership indicates extraordinary life and interest.

I have been impressed also with the fact that peace and harmony prevail throughout the bounds of the Grand Encampment, and the "Committee on Grievance" has usually nothing to report.

Another significant note is distinctly audible in the proceedings reviewed. Amidst the din of the armory and the hilarity of the banquet hall, behind the glamor of military drill, the stress of tactical efficiency and the magnificence of parades and spectacular effects, there lies a profound conviction that these in themselves do not constitute the purpose, nor justify the existence of Templar Masonry. In the addresses of many of the Grand Commanders, attention is called to the practical duties of Sir Knights everywhere, and we are again and again reminded that these accoutrements are but the symbols of spiritual weapons which we are to use in the suppression of ignorance, vice and cruelty. There is a new chivalry whose weapons are not carnal. There is abroad in the world the spirit of modern knighthood which finds its justification and its potent expression in a holy warfare against the materialism and commercialism of the age, against the tyranny of organized capital on the one hand or of labor on the other,—against the spirit of graft and corruption that stealthily stalks through the land, invading the operations of commerce and of war, of our Municipal, State and National governments, and poisoning the atmosphere even of our Temples of Learning and of Religion. Against these foes of our national life it is the duty of knighthood everywhere to draw the sword of truth, justice and liberty and to die if need be in the cause of righteousness. To die a social death or a political death,—to suffer from slander, calumny and ostracism, is a higher test of courage, patriotism and devotion to principle than to fall fighting for the flag on a foreign shore. Let the 150,000 Knights Templar in the United States thoroughly comprehend their exalted mission and arm themselves for the great conflict. Then our beautiful symbolism will receive a new significance, and the development of our Order will indicate the progress of truth and righteousness, of "Peace on earth, good will to men."

R. E. Sir Robert Teague is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

ARIZONA—1905.

The Twelfth Annual was held in the city of Tucson, November 16th, with R. E. Sir Thomas Armstrong, Jr., Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Geo. J. Roskrige Grand Recorder. Three Subordinate Commanderies were represented. There were also half a dozen Past Grand Commanders and a long list of Grand Representatives, in attendance.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, well written and comprehensive resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of special interest to outsiders.

He thinks the disposition made by the Grand Encampment of the appeal of our friend Belden touching his remarkable decision that when a man is elected to take the first degree in Masonry and who expresses the determination to climb to the top of the ladder, can put his petition in the Commandery and it is in order for said Commandery to entertain and pass upon it, so that when he finally pulls through as far as the R. A., the Commandery can be ready to take him right in out of the wet and wind the thing up, was not in exact accordance with the eternal fitness of things, but adds that, as the matter is now finally settled, it is as well to let it rest in peace. We concur. The child should not have been born, in the first place, being a simple monstrosity, but being born the best thing to do is to kill and bury it. The father and also the sponsors of the thing ought to be ashamed of themselves, but they do not appear to be so.

He decided that a Past Grand Officer of the Grand Commandery, below the G. Capt. G., are not entitled to wear the Templar Cross of a P. G. Officer after the expiration of his term expires, which decision was approved. It is likely that an appeal to the Grand Encampment will be taken by the party affected by the decision. The whole thing strikes us as being childish and of not sufficient importance to talk about. A Past Officer of any grand body should have the right to wear the appropriate "strap" so long as he is in full connection with that body. It hurts no one and these things are very precious, to some people.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. We note, in the itemized account of the "Triennial Committee" that they paid \$284.61 for wines, liquors, "etc."!! This is a nice item for such an Institution as ours; an Institution founded upon the Xtian Religion and the practice of the Xtian virtues, now isn't it? The wonder intrudes, what made up the item, "etc."? There are three things that generally appear in evidence on occasions of this sort,—wine, women and dope, and if San Francisco was like New Orleans in '74, the probability is that the "etc." included women. There is charge of only \$5.00 for cigars, which shows that they were long on tangle-foot and short on cigars, which is not remarkable. Total membership, 245, a gain of 20. Cash balance in treasury, \$739.98.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Is the production of our egotistical friend, Morford, and considers the doings of most of the Templar family of Grands, in a report covering 60

pages. His review of Mississippi at Biloxi is short but covers the ground. He does not seem to feel kindly towards your distinguished committee, says that we have not gotten over the skinning Brother Belden gave us, some time in the past and that we hold a grudge against the Templars of Arizona on that account and winds up by accusing us of being an ass. If we except the alleged skinning, the statement that we hold any unkind feelings towards the Templars of that obedience and the charge that we are an ass, the statement of the correspondent is very nearly correct. Neither Belden, nor Morford are capable of skinning your committee or of ruffling his equanimity in the least, and they both know it. Vale Morford.

R. E. Owen Thomas Rouse is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder George J. Roskruge, re-elected.

ARKANSAS—1905.

The Thirty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Little Rock, May 16th. There were present: R. E. Sir T. H. Jones, Grand Commander; E. Sir Fay Hempstead, Grand Recorder; and all the other Grand Officers, except the Generalissimo. There were also in attendance, seven Past Grand Commanders, Seventeen Grand Representatives, including Brother Jackson for Mississippi and representatives of eleven Subordinates, out of a total of seventeen.

The address of the Grand Commander is a simple resume of his official acts, in which we find nothing startling, or out of the usual course. He did a small business in the way of dispensations to rush the ballot, granting but four in all. He made but one decision and that of local interest only. He is anxious that all the Templars of Arkansas shall be pious on Easter and Ascension Days. We would be glad if they would keep it up the entire year—but they won't do it!

He recommended an appropriation of \$300, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be made for the expenses of the Grand Commander in making his annual visits. In his conclusion he promises to continue in active service just the same as before he wore the Toga. We hope he will. It is too often the case, however, for those who have reached the top round of the official ladder to sit down and let the others do the work that it is as much their duty to do after, as before their elevation.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The Triennial cost them just \$874.29, which is more than we paid and we cut as big a swell as they did. Ha! Frank! The Grand Treasury shows a balance to the good of \$1,599.41, which is pretty good. Total membership, 817, a gain of 43.

There is no report on Correspondence, which shows that our Brethren in that bailiwick like Triennials better than they do polite literature.

R. E. Sir S. P. Collings is Grand Commander. (His phiz adorns the title page); Grand Recorder, as before.

CALIFORNIA—1905.

Forty-seventh Annual Conclave as held in the city of San Francisco, April 20th. There were present: R. E. Sir Frank W. Pierce, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir William R. Davies, Grand Recorder; all the balance of the staff officers, 12 Past Grand Commanders, a long list of Grand Representatives and Delegates from 40 Subordinate Commanderies, including one U. D.

The Grand Commander's address is a business paper, from end to end, and is a complete resume of a successful and able administration. He granted a multitude of dispensations and for divers purposes, all of them, however, along proper lines. On the subject of finance, he says:

Two years ago the Grand Commandry appropriated to the Triennial Committee thirty-five thousand dollars; at the last Annual Conclave the appropriation was increased to sixty thousand dollars.

We entertained the Grand Encampment, have settled all claims, paid all bills, the Committee using less than twenty-six thousand dollars of the appropriations, all claims against the Grand Commandry, including a note of about nine thousand dollars, have been paid, and for the first time in many years, the Grand Commandry is entirely out of debt; about fourteen thousand dollars in the treasury, and eleven hundred and three shares of Masonic Hall Association stock valued at nearly thirty thousand dollars. We feel that the Grand Commandry is to be congratulated.

It appears, from this, that the advent of the Grand Encampment was not an unmixed evil, and we are glad. The address covers but six pages and is a miracle of brevity and sense, refreshing to see. Would that the disease would become epidemic.

The proceedings are devoid of special interest, except the report of the Triennial Committee, from which we learn that the Entertainment Committee spent over ten thousand dollars, "Horse and Carriage Committee," \$1,005; "Ladies' Committee," \$1,584; "Decoration Committee," \$30,881; "Drill Committee," \$5,574 and the "Badge Committee," \$7,781; to all of which add the expenses incurred by a multitude of other committees and we have an aggregate of \$91,014.61, which is a great deal of money. However, it is none of our business and our only object is to show Jackson, Brookhaven, Gloster and Brandon that they are too poor to invite the Grand Encampment to visit them, and stay four days! Natchez, Rodney, Vicksburg, and, possibly, Winona or Water Valley, might pull through, but the other fellows, including those named and Meridian are too small, as well as too poor. They have plenty of "hospitality," but they lack other ingredients!

The Order was on a boom, as the Grand Recorder reports a net gain in membership of 649 and a total membership of 5,248. The Grand Treasury holds a balance, on the right side of, \$11,625.05.

A portrait of the present Grand Commander, makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet, while further along we find a group picture of the Triennial Committee. A body of as fine looking, intellectual and handsome men as you can find anywhere.

CORRESPONDENCE.

One hundred and sixty-five pages are covered by the report on Correspondence, by Past Grand Commander and Grand Recorder Davies, in which the minutes of forty-five Templar Grand Bodies are carefully digested, our own, at Jackson, among the rest. It is unnecessary for us to commend the work of our Brother Davies, as everybody knows that it is good. Besides, he is too old to be fed on ordinary taffy. His attention to our doings is flatteringly full (three pages) and very pleasant, kind and fraternal, for all of which we are his debtor. He summarizes the address of our Frank and has these remarks in reference to the indomitable "Fred:"

Grand Recorder Speed presented his report which, like any other paper submitted by him, was an able one, but this one especially so, and we commend it to any one of our fraters who would like to read a "red hot" criticism and review of Grand Encampment legislation. We would give it in full, but cannot afford the four pages required. We would suggest that Grand Master Moulton get, by some means, Sir Knight Frederic Speed on that Committee on Jurisprudence and without unnecessary delay.

He also quotes a part of Fred's eulogy of Senior Grand Warden Locke, of the Grand Encampment, characterizing Fred's effort as "most eloquent and impressive," etc., all of which is appreciated by us, but it is apt to make Fred feel vain, a state of affairs that we deprecate.

He says of our very able and exhaustive report, that it is one of our best, which is pretty high praise coming from him to us, and we are not ungrateful. Quoting some of our wise fulminations in regard to the late session of the Grand Encampment in his town, he says: "And still we live, Brother De Lap! But we assure you we are not hunting for another Triennial." We should think not!

Further along he says: "We have been interested in Brother Speed's criticism of the Grand Encampment methods, and we heartily wish we had the space to excerpt the 'tail' of De Lap's report. We will certify, however, that as Enoch hoped, Fred did give the culprits 'Hail Columbia,' for sure."

"The report, as a whole is one of the best and most instructive that we have seen so far, and we have seen some first class ones."

R. E. Sir John D. Jarnatt is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

COLORADO—1905.

The Thirtieth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Denver, September 22nd, and there were present: R. E. Sir Arthur Edgar Jones, Grand Commander; E. Sir Charles H. Jacobson, Grand Recorder; the entire staff, 11 Past Grand Commanders, some other past grand officers, 25 Grand Representatives and delegates from 27 out of 29 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander opens his address as follows:

We thank Almighty God, Grand Commander of the Universe, for being permitted once more to assemble in Annual Grand Conclave. To Him and Him alone, are we indebted and to Him we express our sincere gratitude.

Knights Templar of old, after fatigue of battle and loss of friends, gathered in their sacred asylums to counsel, to seek advice, to ask forgiveness and to return thanks. No longer have we foes to fight with battle-ax and sword, demanding bravery and physical strength, but enemies to meet that would body and soul destroy, and to resist requires character, purity of heart and moral courage.

We meet to-day as did our fathers in solemn conclave, to counsel, to seek advice, to ask forgiveness and to return sincere thanks. May the Thirtieth Grand Conclave of Colorado be guided by the spirit of truth, honor and love, and by our deeds may our Heavenly Father and Commander consider us worthy sons of His house and noble Knights of His Commandery.

Knights, gray in service, we extend to you a loving greeting. Knights, young and for the first time in our Grand Asylum, Knights from home and strangers from abroad, to you we extend a hand of hearty welcome. Sir Knights, consider well your responsibility; weigh well your acts; serve friend and foe with equal impartiality and justice and, when our day's work is done, may all look back without regret or remorse.

We regret that our brother felt called upon to mention the originals of the Order, as the subject is chestnutty and won't wash, besides his idea that they, after the fatigues of battle, etc., retired to their asylums to ask forgiveness, presumably of God and to return thanks, sounds rather shaky in the light of history and the character of these alleged soldiers of the Cross, especially those of the time of Richard Couer de Leon. The Book and the Gospel teach us that there is no remission of sin without repentance, and the idea that those ducks really repented of the deviltry perpetrated by them, is simply ridiculous. Besides, a sin repented of today and repeated to-morrow don't count for much in the economy of Divine Grace. The less said about these gentlemen, the better, in our opinion.

He pays proper tribute to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, both of his own and sister Jurisdictions. He issued a few dispensations, along the usual lines. Made four decisions, all of which were correct. His visitations were quite extensive and were, no doubt, productive of good. He closes with assurances that when he retires from the office of Grand Commander, his interest in the Order nor his zeal in its service, will not take a back seat. This is, too often the case.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, to the good \$3,414.42, which is healthy. Total membership, 1,991, a gain of 57.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Past Grand Commander Harper M. Orahod, presented his Twenty-fifth report on Correspondence, in which the salient features of the minutes of all the governing bodies of the Order, are noted, but with a sparsity of comment. Mississippi at Greenville, getting nearly a page of courteous and fraternal notice. We copy his conclusion:

This completes our Twenty-fifth annual report on correspondence. The work this year has been done under somewhat unfavorable conditions. As

is well known, the Thirty-ninth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was this year held in Denver. Your Chairman has the honor to be Past Department Commander of Colorado and Wyoming, and has during the year been actively engaged as Chairman of the Parade Committee, and this has taken a great deal of time, work and close attention. It has been difficult to find the time we usually give the work of this report. The Encampment by common report and as told us by our Comrades was a great success. So in that line we are well pleased because our friends are pleased and will soon forget the hard work.

The conditions prevailing in the Templar world, as given in our last report, continue. Prosperity generally and of our Order particularly is reported from all the Grand Commanderies. We are able to report our own Jurisdiction well up in this line of favorable conditions. We have gained materially in membership, and, we are sure, in standing and influence, as have all the Grand Commanderies throughout the country.

For the many kind things said of our Jurisdiction and us personally we now most cordially tender our thanks to correspondents and others. We most fully appreciate their kind words and wish each and all every blessing that a kind and loving Providence can bestow.

To our Fraters we wish to say this report contains a great deal of solid information, carefully gathered from various addresses, proceedings and correspondence reports throughout all the Jurisdictions of our country, and we know you will be well repaid for reading it. If you are pleased and benefited we will be well repaid for the work we have bestowed on it.

R. E. Sir Arthur Edgar Jones is again Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent also, continued. This shows that our Colorado brethren know a good thing when they get hold of it, and keep it.

CONNECTICUT—1905.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Bridgeport, March 21st. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir Julius W. Knowlton, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Eli C. Birdsey, Grand Recorder; 17 Past Grand Commanders, a long list of Past Commanders, 30 Grand Representatives and Delegates from 11 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is the shortest that ever blossomed out in the "Nutmeg State," that we have seen, but as it is likely that he said all he had to say, and said it well, we are not disposed to complain. He made no decisions, issued but few dispensations, but he did appoint a long list of Grand Representatives, the names of these gentlemen filling two pages of the five that hold the address. If there is anything we do like to see, it is a man that has sense enough to say, Amen and quit when he gets through. If this disease would spread and take in the pulpit, it would be an unmixed blessing. It is not likely that it will, however, more's the pity.

The proceedings, like the address, are short and devoid of outside interest, if we except the report of the committee on necrology, which being in verse is out of the usual lines. We copy it entire, with the remark that is very good and appropriate:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NECROLOGY.

Their standard, with the blood-red cross;
 They lift its white folds high,
 "Not unto us: Not unto us:"
 As with one voice they cry.

To Thee, O Lord, all glory give,
 The victory is thine;
 Victory won that man may live;
 Won by Thy love divine.

Gethsemane, whose dire distress
 No mortal man may know;
 The Crown of thorns so pitiless;
 The scourges cruel blow.

The heartless, impious mockery,
 The staggering weight of woe
 That tortured Thee on Calvary,
 Till death Thy head bowed low.

Thou are victorious over all,
 From fear dost set us free.
 Foes cannot harm, nor death appall
 The soul that trusts in Thee.

Thou mighty conqueror of death!
 They join with loud acclaim
 And honor with their parting breath
 The victors sacred name.

While those that remain suffer the anguish of earth's final farewell; to the "called and chosen" is the exceeding and abiding joy of coronation in heaven.

EDWIN B. EVERITT,
 Committee on Necrology.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a cash balance, to the good, of \$2,508.38, which is pretty good for our Connecticut Brethren. Total membership, 3,135, a gain of 161.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is again the production of our valued friend, Hugh Stirling, and while short, 38 pages, is first class in all other respects. Forty-three Templar Grands are reviewed in this paper, including our doings at Greenville, the latter getting a little over one page of courteous and kindly attention. We excerpt the following: "We miss the bright things usually found in this report, particularly those we have profited by from the pen of the Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed." "The Correspondence report, however, compensates to some extent in that respect for it is one of Brother De Lap's best efforts, including Connecticut." Both Fred and the writer are grateful for this bit of taffy, but Fred ought to feel the largest measure of gratitude because he is placed on a parity, if not a notch above us, which is the only evidence we have detected so far, in our Brother Hugh, of a wandering

mind. He complains, and justly too, of some mangling done by our printers, which hitches a part of our epilogue on to the review of Connecticut. While we are not surprised at this, we reserve the right to regret it. "Blessed are they that expect *nothing* for they shall not disappointed."

We copy his conclusion:

We have as usual only endeavored to give to our readers a brief account of the events and transactions of other Templar jurisdictions as in our judgment would be of interest to them. Everywhere prosperity and harmony prevail, several jurisdictions reporting heavy gain in membership and their reports show larger donations to charity and good deeds. The Grand Encampment at its meeting in San Francisco transacted business only of a routine nature, with a few minor exceptions, and so it has been with the large majority of the State Grand Commanderies, showing conclusively that "Peace and Harmony" does prevail. The fraters of California, as we previously intimated, proved most hospitable in the conduct of the affairs of the Triennial which fell to them as hosts. The magnificent decorations, illuminations and sumptuous banquets were such as one might expect upon such an occasion from such generous people. The next Triennial will be held at Saratoga Springs in 1907 and the greatest State of our country will have an opportunity to show the Templar world, that the East, and especially the Empire State is not lacking in those essential traits which makes a "delightful host."

R. E. Sir Samuel J. Bryant is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1905.

The Tenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Washington, May 8th. Present: R. E. Sir Bennett A. Allen, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding; with E. Sir Arvine W. Johnston, Grand Recorder. The attendance was good. Owing to continued illness, the Grand Commander, Sir Andrew W. Kelley, was not present. His address was there, however, which contains an epitome of the salient features of his administration. He occupies considerable time and space in his account of the Triennial, from which we infer that he had a good time. He made no decisions and his dispensations were unimportant. Due tribute is paid to the long list of the knightly dead.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of general interest. The Grand Treasury contained a balance on the right side of \$1,251.95. Total membership, not recorded. If it was, we missed it.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This paper is the eighth offense, in regular order, of our good Brother Walker, and, like the other seven, is a good one. Forty-four Templar legislative deliverances are considered in this report, Mississippi at Jackson, getting two pages of courteous attention. He quotes "Frank's" blast at Great Britain, and remarks: "Why not the British Empire blended with the Great Republic? That is the more likely." Frank is a great Crank. He not only dislikes royalty, but is opposed to the retention, by us, of the

Malay pirates and the Sultan of Sulu, all of which is cranky, very cranky!

He also excerpts from Fred's review of the Grand Encampment and quotes some of our sage remarks prefacing the latter with what follows, which shows him to be a man of sense and discrimination: "Past Grand Commander Enoch George De Lap, who wields one of the most vigorous pens of all who sit around the "Round Table," comes again with a report that is full of originality. There are frequent allusions to "Fred," by whom is meant the able and accomplished Grand Recorder, Sir Knight Speed."

Further along we find this: "Then he has "Fred" put what the latter terms a "tail" to the report on correspondence, and "Fred" once more pays his respects to the Grand Encampment, though he avers that he is not acuated by pique or soreness." Certainly not Brother Walker.

We copy his conclusion:

Our task has been performed in part under difficulties. Engagements that have kept us from home much of the time interfered with the preparation of the report, though in some respects made the task more enjoyable for the reason that in taking our work with us, and in looking over the proceedings of other jurisdictions during the leisure hours, the weariness of hotel life in a large city, when business cares of the day are at end, was forgotten. But still the conveniences of the "den" at home are wanting. The influence of the average hotel cook is not promotive of the best results of the pen, and the lack of opportunity to indulge in the purer air to which we are accustomed is felt the more as we write these lines within the narrow confines of a room in a modern hotel, through the windows of which come zephyrs well seasoned with the smoke and dust of the city; and the only sounds are the roar of car after car of noisy trolley lines that pass along three sides of the large building, the rattle of heavy trucks over cobblestone pavements, the monotony being varied now and then by the bang of a neighbor's door as he hastily leaves his domicile and hails through the grating of the shaft across from our room a descending elevator with the cry "Down!"

There is little in the way of happenings in the Templar world that call for special mention. We are glad, however, to record that more attention is being given to the matter of inspections almost everywhere. Semi-military as we are, it is right and proper that the military spirit be cultivated among us. We are the better fitted for the battle of life, for the meaning of many of the beautiful precepts of our Order is made the more significant as they are used to properly illustrate the warfare of human existence and the ultimate triumph of those who wield their swords In His Name.

R. E. Sir Bennett A. Allen is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

FLORIDA—1905.

The Eleventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Jacksonville, May 11th. There were present: R. E. Sir Otis L. Keene, Grand Commander; E. Sir Wilber P. Webster, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, except the Generalissimo, seven Past Grand Commanders, a lot of past commanders and representatives from nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Right Eminent is devoid of general interest. He re-

ports the Order as being in a healthy condition, in the main. He granted several dispensations, along the usual lines, among them one for a new Commandery at Live Oak. He made no decisions.

The proceedings were of the ordinary routine character and were devoid of interest to outsiders. The Grand Treasurer reported a balance, to the good of \$612.54. Total membership, 650; a gain of 113. The "Pay Roll" amounted to \$48.00, being \$2.00 each, which is cheap! There was no report on correspondence, but there are a couple of portraits of Grand Commanders, which shows them to be short on literature and "long" on Art. As they grow older, they will increase in knowledge.

R. E. Sir James Carnell is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

GEORGIA—1905.

The Forty-fourth Annual was held in the city of Macon, May 11th, with a good attendance. R. E. Sir William Schweigert, Grand Commander and R. E. Sir William S. Rockwell, Grand Recorder.

Prior to the opening, the grand body was favored with an address of "welcome" by a local orator, in which we find a number of platitudes, some chestnuty references to the original Templars and their, alleged, virtues, (all of which makes us tired) and the word "Templarism!" If the fellow that coined that word, as well as those who use it, get their just deserts they will be put in an asylum for Templar idiots. The response was made by Grand Standard Bearer Greenfield, and does him great credit. Then followed a lunch, which is a good thing to have after a welcoming speech.

The Grand Commander's address is short and confined to local matters. His phiz adorns the pamphlet, (we speak advisedly as he is really good looking) as does those of V. E. J. K. Orr, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Encampment; and Past Grand Commander Baldwin and Grand Treasurer Smith, the latter being the handsomest man in the crowd. Speaking of "Smith and Smiths," we find that there are twenty-one of this cognomen enrolled as Templars in the Empire State of Georgia, which strikes us as being somewhat below the standard. Tradition informs us that when Adam was engaged in naming his family he got tired early in the action, and said: "Let all the rest be called Smith" and it was done. While we know that Georgia is short on literature, we hope she is not also behind hand in the matter of Smiths, but that twenty-one looks like it.

The Order seems to be in a healthy condition. The Right Eminent said that he had made up his mind that he would go slow in the granting of dispensations doing away with time and space, in the matter of balloting on candidates, but the boys got away with him to the tune of about a dozen, all of which is right and proper.

Nothing in the proceedings of outside interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$3,376.27; total membership, 1,381, a gain of 97. There is no report on Correspondence.

R. E. Sir Robert B. Barron is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND AND WALES—1905.

A Chapter of this Order was held in Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Streets, on Friday 9th. December, the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Euston, G. C. T., on the Throne. The attendance was large, but the proceedings were devoid of interest to outsiders, in the main.

The report of the Great Council contains a very pleasant account of the visit of the Supreme Grand Master, the Earl of Euston, to this country and his attendance, with his staff at the Triennial at San Francisco. He seemed to be well pleased with his treatment by his American cousins, and to have had an exceptionally pleasant trip and visit. We copy what follows along these lines:

"Your Delegates desire to be permitted to offer to the Grand Encampment of the United States, to the Grand Commandery of the State of California, to the Grand Priory of Canada, and to the Supreme Council 33° for the Northern Jurisdiction, as well as to all and every one whom they met, the most earnest assurance of their high appreciation of all the many kindnesses they received during their brief stay in America. They trust that their visit has drawn more closely the bond of union that binds together the English-speaking Brethren of the Temple, and they most sincerely hope that the Bond of Brotherhood may still more closely cement the kindly feeling and good fellowship that prevails between the two English-speaking countries of the Republic of the United States of America and the British Empire. They will ever cherish in their hearts 'pleasant memories of pleasant lands,' and remember with feelings of affection the kindness of their beloved Brethren of the Temple in North America."

In all of which we concur.

The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition, along all lines. No change in the official staff.

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ILLINOIS—1905.

The Forty-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Chicago, October 24th. There were present: R. E. Sir George E. Ohara, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Gil. W. Barnard, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, representatives from 67 Subordinate Commanderies, a big lot of Grand Representatives and Past Commanders.

The Grand Prelate's prayer is printed, in full, and is a good one. It is a little long, as is too often the case with modern Sky Pilots, although long prayers are in direct violation of the command of the Master, who gave His disciples, and us, a model that condenses all that man requires into a very limited space. But for its length we would copy it, for the purpose of commending it to sundry and divers brethren who are sometimes called upon to pray in prayer meeting, in the great congregation, and in other public places, and who are not gifted in composition of this sort and who practice so little in their homes and closets that they make a sad failure of it in public. Judging by their prayers, in public, many of our alleged Christians are comparative strangers at the Throne of Divine Grace and hardly know how to begin, continue or end a prayer, which is unfortunate. Many people, most of them, in fact, pray, not to God, but to the congregation, and they do their best to so construct the petition that it will tickle

the intellectual ears of the hearers! These prayers seldom reach and never go beyond the ceiling of the room in which they are offered, and amount to nothing in the way of returns, of a satisfactory nature, from the Majesty on High. It is very seldom we hear a prayer of the sort that Peter prayed, when his Lord permitted him to come to Him, on the water, "Lord, save, or I perish!" mores the pity. We beg pardon for this digression on the subject of prayer, but we could not help it, very well.

The address of the Grand Commander is a voluminous document containing an epitome of his administration, together with some wise reflections and thought, as an "opening chorus." He is in accord with the Christmas Libation sentiment, but suggests that it would be better for each commandery to select its own toasts and run the machine to suit itself. We are inclined to think that the simple fact of one general sentiment, for that occasion, in no wise prevents the brethren to add as much as they please to the regular order. We do not take enough interest in the matter to care much either way.

Proper tribute is paid to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, both of his own and other Jurisdictions. The list is a long one, and contains some of the brightest and best of the Templar host. "Such, Pilgrim, is the state to which we are all hastening."

He granted the usual number of dispensations, and for the usual purposes, all of which he had a right to do. We find nothing of special importance, to outsiders, in the address.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Total membership, 12,037, a gain of 550. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$12,855.74, which beats us badly.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the "perfect ashlar" of our old and valued friend, R. E. Sir John Corson Smith, in which the transactions of most of the Templar family of Grands have careful and courteous notice, Mississippi at Jackson, getting three pages of polite and fraternal attention. We copy his "Opening Chorus:"

For yet another year we have traversed the Templar cloisters of thought and cultivable fields of knightly doings, conning the legislative labors of our Grand Commanderies, the addresses of the Grand Commanders, and the laws enacted by the knightly hosts of Templary, for our government. Like the generous gardener we have endeavored to give you the best we have found and the wisest legislation of the fifty grand bodies whose doings we have carefully examined and present them with our best judgment, regarding their knightly application. Brief as has been our labors in this Templar field we have known and seen many of those who honored our Christian orders lay aside the pen and pass to the unseen world. We recall a Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine; Theodore S. Parvin, of Iowa; James A. Henry, of Arkansas; Thomas H. Caswell, of California; Joseph H. Wheeler, of Connecticut; John H. Brown, of Kansas; Wm. P. Innis, of Michigan; Charles Cruft, of Indiana; Wm. R. Bowen, of Nebraska; John W. Simmons, of New York; Thomas J. Corson, of New Jersey; Enoch T. Carson, of Ohio; George C. Connor, of Tennessee, and A. V. H. Carpenter, of Wisconsin. There is one other of this, our sister jurisdiction, known for his able reports and courteous bearing, William C. Swain, who though still with us has

written his last report and in broken health awaits the bugle call for "Taps" in the United States Soldiers' Home, at Milwaukee, broken in health from service in the cause of his country in the war of 1861-5. For that reason, my brother correspondents, you have not heard from Sir Knight Swain for the past two or three years.

Under Mississippi and referring to Fred's eulogy of our lamented brother, Will Howard, Bro. John says:

All this and much more is said of Brother Howard whom I have met in his own Grand Body and knew him to have been a brave soldier who having the courage of his convictions fought for that which he thought to be right but who when the war ended accepted the decision of arms and labored with the people of his adopted state to heal all dissensions and unite them as they never were before united. Recalling that great war at this writing and with Chicago in the midst of a serious disturbance which has paralyzed trade, endangering life and property I am asking myself what use was there in fighting our own people for the preservation of this Union to have our sons prevented from pursuing their lawful business by a horde of foreign socialists and anarchists and the lawless of our own people. The average politician is a coward when it comes to enforcing the laws and riot runs wild. It must be stopped, and to every man must be conceded the right to work for whoever desires to employ him and upon such terms as employee and employer may agree.

All of which is true. He copies freely from some of our fulminations, in last report, speaks lovingly to us, etc., for all of which we are obliged. He evidently thinks that Fred is a great man, and he is right, as the following excerpt will prove:

Brother DeLap having requested Grand Recorder Speed "to put a tail to his review" which Fred proceeds to do in his usual lucid and forceful manner, and we have as a conclusion to correspondence six pages of clear and concise criticism of several pieces of legislation of Grand Encampment.

The active workers in templary, more than the reader of its laws, cannot fail to see the truth and force of much the critic says and regret that there is not time enough taken at these Triennials to revise and correct much that is obsolete and incongruous in our Grand Encampment laws.

Following the regular report, "Freemasonry and Its World-wide Benevolence" is considered in a mass of information, profusely illustrated, all of which is along the same lines as have been his writings during the last several years. The present essay will make an excellent and interesting chapter in that Book which we hope to see published before we cross over to the other side.

Illinois is a great state and has some grand men, as citizens, chief among them being our brothers, John, Gil. W. et als., of the Templar host. "May they live long and prosper."

R. E. Sir Alfred A. Whipple is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

IOWA—1905.

We have before us, a somewhat ponderous tome in which we find recorded the proceedings of the Forty-second Annual Conclave of this Grand Body, which was held at "Spirit Lake" on the 11th day of July. There

were present: R. E. Sir William Welden, Grand Commander; R. E. David Millar Brownlee, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, several distinguished visitors, from other states, a lot of Past Grand Commanders, Grand Representatives and delegates and visitors from the Subordinate Commanderies.

The distinguished visitors were welcomed in a set speech and made to feel at home. A picture of the lot, with natives for a background, adorns the pamphlet.

The address of the Grand Commander is a typical Iowa paper. We excerpt from his opening chorus:

It is my pleasing privilege to extend to you a hearty greeting to another house gathering of the Knights Templar of the Grand Commandery of Iowa. If it be true, as is often said, that this is an age of commercialism, in which the finer and holier qualities of man's nature are suppressed or corrupted in the interest of mere material success, it is the crowning glory of Masonry that everywhere in all its ranks and degrees, it opposes a solid front to this degrading tendency and cultivates in the hearts of its votaries the spirit of genuine fraternity.

In that spirit we have left our several homes and gathered in this familiar retreat, not alone to make formal review of the official year now closing, but to take each other by the hand, look into each other's faces, hear the music of friendly voices, discuss the experiences of the past, and draw hopeful pictures of the future. We come as children of a common Father, acknowledging the Lordship of the same risen Savior, and with each yearly return we find the attraction which draws us hither increasing in strength, and the tie which binds us heart to heart becoming more and more, in very truth, "A three-fold cord, which cannot be broken."

We hope he is right in his claims for Masonry, but a doubt intrudes.

Two Past Grand Commanders and two Past Grand Captains General were called away by death, during the year, and to the memory and worth of these he pays eloquent and deserved tribute.

He made a number of decisions, all of which were correct, but none of sufficient importance for us to quote. His dispensations were along the usual lines and were all right. His portrait makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet.

CORRESPONDENCE.

As usual, in Iowa, this paper is first class in all respects. It is from the fertile brain, scissors and paste of our good Brother Babb, covers 115 pages and digests the proceedings of nearly all the Templar legislative bodies of the world, Mississippi, at Jackson included. His attention to us is full and flattering. He calls Frank's address an "excellent paper," which we hope will not make the aforesaid "Frank" vain and conceited. Further along he notes the fact that Frank used the word "Templarism" and quotes our remark about the use of the word by a Grand Commander of Iowa, last year: "It hurts to see it used in Mississippi, where brainy Templars are the rule and not the exception." We hope that Frank's offense will not be repeated, either by him or any others in this bailiwick. Fred's timely and sensible remarks, in his report, on the subject of the Grand En-

campment are quoted and commended as being interesting, etc. He is very kind to this reporter, devoting three pages to us. We excerpt what follows:

If there is one field where Frater De Lap hurls his thunderbolts with greater effect than any other it is in the theological world. This year under the head of Pennsylvania, in referring to the popular idea that Ham is the father of the negro race, he says:

"The negro is *not* a descendant of Adam, but is the connecting link between the human and the brute creation, is not a sharer in the redemption provided for the fallen race, the progenitors of which were expelled from the Garden of Eden, and compelled to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows, either in person or by proxy."

Here are three distinct propositions. The first, that "Ham is not the father of the negro race," is an historical one slightly tinged with theology. The second, that "the negro is *not* a descendant of Adam but is the connecting link between the human and brute creation" is both a scientific and theological question. The third, that the negro "is not a sharer in the redemption provided for the fallen race" is purely a theological one.

We are not the special champion of the negro, and theology is not our strong forte, yet as we read these lines some questions come to our mind, and we ask Brother De Lap for further light in regard to his discovery or revelation, if it be the latter.

We regard the question as to whether Ham is the progenitor of the negro race as rather immaterial, although the Biblical account of his descendants, coupled with what we know of the early history of that race gives it an air of plausibility. When he says that the "negro is the connecting link between the human and brute creation," we begin to have grave doubts as to his orthodoxy. How Darwin and his disciples would have hailed him as the discoverer of the missing link in their system! The connecting link only comes in when he accepts the development theory.

If you are right in this proposition, Brother De Lap, does it not necessarily follow that you and the rest of us are descendants of the negro, and that he is our early ancestor in the development of the race? We do not like this idea, and we hope you will give this further thought and see if you cannot eliminate this "connecting link" from your theology.

The third and last proposition, that the negro "is not a sharer in the redemption provided for the fallen race" is uttered with all the assurance and certainty that would come from one who had a special revelation upon the subject.

Now, Brother De Lap, we have no right to dispute the truth of your statement upon this point, as we only sit in the pew and are not authorized to instruct upon this purely theological question, but we seek of you further light upon some collateral questions growing out of this, if your special revelation covers them. What is to become of the mulatto, the quadroon, and octaroon, are they in the scheme of redemption or are they to be cast out into utter darkness? How potent is the negro blood, and what is the exact proportion of it when mingled with the white that will exclude the individual from the plan of redemption? The negro being excluded from the plan of redemption, is it not folly to raise money to send missionaries to darkest Africa? If not, why not? What does your special revelation say on that point? The occupants of the pews who contribute for this purpose have a right to know.

How is it with regard to a large number of our *quasi* citizens of the United States residing in the distant Philippines for which we paid two dollars a head in order to advance them in the scale of civilization, many of whom are said to be as dark and to have the features of the negro and differ only as being smaller in size. Are they, too excluded from the scheme of salvation? If not, why not? If they are excluded under your revelation,

were we not swindled in our purchase of them from Spain, and what is our redress?

What light can you give us as to whether the Indian—not the noble red man of whom we read, but the plain, every-day Indian as we find him; the “heathen Chinese” and other inferior races, are they also excluded from the plan of redemption, and if not, why not?

It is so hot and conditions in regard to the spread of yellow fever are so depressing that we shall be exceedingly brief in our replies to our Brother Babb’s queries. Our views on the subject of the origin of the negro are based upon what we believe to be a proper interpretation of what we find in the first, second, sixth and other chapters of the Book of Genesis. The first chapter recites the work performed by the Creator in the first six days of recorded time, the 26th and 27th verses being the one to which special references is had. These verses describe the creation of the negro, putting his creation along with that of the other animals and beasts. You will note the verbiage of the text: “Male and female created he them, etc.” In the 7th verse of the second chapter, following the institution of the Sabbath, we find the account of the creation of the man Adam, and note that he was formed out of the dust of the ground and God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and he became a living soul. Further along, in the same chapter, we find the account of the planting, by the Divine Creator, of a “garden eastward in Eden” and the placing of the man in it, to dress and keep it. After the lapse of an indefinite period of time, God, noticing the fact of Adam’s loneliness, said: “It is not good for man to be alone, let us make a helpmeet for him,” and the manner in which this was done is familiar to all. Commentators, of all denominations, claim that the second chapter is simply an elaboration of the account of the creation, briefly outlined in the first, but if this is true, it will be difficult to explain who and what are meant by the “daughters of men” referred in the first verse of the sixth chapter. There can be no doubt but that the “Sons of God” there mentioned referred to the descendants of Adam, and it is equally clear, to the unprejudiced mind, that the others were of a different race, or species, and that what follows surely indicates that the amalgamation there recorded was not pleasing to God. The only way out of the muddle is to assume that the negro race is meant and that that race is what we claim that it is, i. e., the connecting link between the sons of God, Adam’s posterity, and the ordinary animal world. The proposition is further strengthened by assuming, as we have a right to do, that the “Serpent” that did the tempting act, was not a snake, but a negro. The devil is exceedingly cunning, and the idea that he would be likely to endow a serpent, or snake with the gift of speech and send him, walking on his tail, to open up a conversation with Eve, is too ridiculous to talk about. Whatever it was, it was an animal that Eve had been in the habit of conversing with, otherwise she would have been frightened and ran away. The curse pronounced against the “serpent,” indicates that, prior to the temptation, the offender had walked in an erect posture, a thing impossible in the case of the serpent, who was created to travel on his belly. “Dust shalt thou eat,” if said to a serpent, has not been fulfilled, as the snake is among the cleanest of all the animals. Although he travels on his

belly, his head and mouth are always above the ground and out of the dirt. The curse is, on the other hand, literally fulfilled in the person and life of the negro in his wild state. He is the lowest of the low, eats what he can get, without regard to its cleanliness or anything else. Now, assuming that it was the negro and not the snake that performed the behest of Satan in the Garden of Eden, it follows, logically, that he could not be a descendant of Adam, because it was after the fall before Adam "knew his wife" and children were born to them. This being true, and it is true, it also follows that the atonement made by our Lord, had nothing to do with the negro race, but was for sole benefit of the posterity of Adam. "As in Adam all die, (i. e., him and his posterity), so in Christ shall all be made alive." The fact that the negro not being of Adam's race, and, therefore not affected by the sin of Adam, he neither shares in the redemption made by our Lord, nor in the operation of the curse that followed the commission of the original sin. Being, however, a reasoning being to some extent, I have no doubt but that God has in the exercise of His grace, provided some place of future rewards and punishment for them as for us. But the place prepared for those who love and obey the Master, alluded to, by Him, in the 14th chapter of John, is not the place for the "brother-in-black." At least that is my opinion. The probabilities are that God drowned the world because of His detestation of the mixture of the two races, and it is not likely that He has changed His mind and proposes to populate Heaven with them.

Now a word in reply to Brother B.'s idea that the fact that the negro is the connecting link between the human and the animal creation, necessarily makes the taint of negro blood appear in our veins. The idea is absurd. A bridge spanning a stream, connects the two sides, but it is not the blood relation of either. But if it is true that the negro is a descendant of Adam, it is equally true that there is negro blood in my veins and in Brother B's. This is so perfectly true that it is needless to argue the matter.

We have no grudge against, or dislike of the negro, per se, but when you educate him and make a large sized fool of him, the scene changes. Some people think that a negro is as good as they are and sit at meat with him, and make fools of themselves generally, and this has a tendency to elevate Mr. Negro in his own estimation, make him forget his place, get saucy and, finally, his head knocked off, for all of which he is indebted to the contemptible asses who for a moment and, doubtless, for their own selfish purposes, gave him a taste of equality. I am not disposed to question the fact that Booker T., is as good as those who make so much of him, on the contrary I consider him the best toad in the puddle, but he ought to have sense enough to know that coddling to him will hurt him and his race a thousand times more than did the century of bondage they endured before the war.

I like a "nigger," and like him well, as long as he keeps in the place his Maker made him for; I do not think he is as good, in any respect, as I am; I do not think that God intended that he should associate with me, or my race, on an equality, for, if He had so designed He would have put a bridge in his nose, reduced his lips 75 per cent., put hair on his head instead of wool and made him smell a trifle sweeter than a pole cat. God Almighty is

the author of no mistakes nor the existence of such incongruities, in creation, as such a state of things would be. I have had no revelation, but have exercised a little common sense. That is all.

R. E. Sir Samuel Irwin Williams is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

IDAHO—1904.

Representatives from four chartered Commanderies of the Jurisdiction of Idaho, met in the city of Boise, August 31st, 1904, under authority of the M. E. Grand Master, Henry Bates Stoddard, and organized the Grand Commandery, of Idaho; adopted a constitution and were duly constituted and set at work, by the representative of the Most Eminent, the Grand Master of Templars of the United States of America.

There are five Commanderies in the Jurisdiction with a total membership of 264, or thereabouts, and we doubt not but that these will be fruitful, will multiply and replenish the State with live Commanderies and worthy Templars. To this end we wish them the largest possible measure of success and prosperity and gladly welcome them to a place among the stars of the Templar Galaxy of this great and glorious country of ours.

The proceedings after organization and the election of Grand Officers, were unimportant. We note, with pleasure, the appointment of a Correspondence Committee and hope to live, d. v., to see a report from it.

R. E. Sir James A. Pinney is Grand Commander; E. Sir J. Orville Baker, Grand Recorder and E. Sir Jesse K. Dubois, Correspondent.

(We note, with regret, that the Grand Recorder parts his name in the middle, which is a reprehensible habit and indicates a weak mind. We used to do it ourselves until we got older and more sense, when we quit it and felt better. Try it Brother Baker).

INDIANA—1905.

The Fifty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of Indianapolis, May 10th. There was a large attendance, with R. E. Sir Charles Goltra, presiding, and E. Sir Calvin W. Prather at the Recorder's desk. Fourteen Past Grand Commanders attested by their presence that their interest in the Order did not expire with their official connection with the Grand Body. This is as it should always be. We note that Indiana has over four hundred Past Commanders! These are permanent members of the Grand Body, which is a small army in itself. There was, also a multitude of Grand Representatives on hand, including Brother Frederick Glass, of Mississippi.

The address of the Grand Commander is a strictly business document, but is mostly local in its references. He pays appropriate and affectionate tribute to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, among them three Past Grand Commanders, of Indiana.

He issued only twenty-four dispensations to ballot on the jump, which is

not excessive in so large a Jurisdiction as his. One new Commandery was organized. We excerpt what follows from his "conclusion:"

The actual possession of authority teaches lessons more serious and far-reaching than any mind can anticipate. More than any other experience it has emphasized to me how weak are one's best efforts when set over against the combined wisdom of those who have gone before; and it is this vision which lends fervor to my plea that as I now lay down the emblems of office you spread the broadest mantle of Masonic charity over all my shortcomings. But the year which has taught such serious lessons has planted flowers in the garden of my memory which will never die. The recollections of the candor and the valor, the friendship and the fervor extended to me by the Sir Knights everywhere will be a perpetual lanquet for my soul while journeying in this pilgrimage here below. Circumstances have denied me the privilege of making acknowledgement of these by personal visitations among you, and space forbids naming all here, but I assure all that none are forgotten.

The address, as a whole, is good and his administration a very satisfactory one, to his command. This latter fact was demonstrated by the presentation to him of an elegant sword, by sundry and divers of his command. The presentation speech was made by E. Emerson E. Ballard, and it is an elegant production.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$8,329.42. Total membership, 5,116, a gain of 412.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the production of the scissors, paste and gray matter of E. Sir Martin H. Rice, and digests the doings of nearly the entire family of Templar governing bodies. We infer from its "Conclusion," that it satisfies our Brother Rice, and, such being the case, adverse criticism would be out of order, if we felt disposed to indulge in it, which we do not. The report covers but 63 pages, and, of course, the attention bestowed on each of forty pamphlets must, necessarily be brief, ours at Greenville, getting one page. His attention to our doings is sufficiently full and not unpleasant, although he is not in love with the efforts of your Reporter to get up a proper report, which compels us to put him in the rather small class of which our brother, Charles Belden, of Arizona, is the head. We copy his remarks in full:

The Report on Correspondence is again by R. E. Enoch George De Lap, P. G. C., and covers one hundred pages. While he reviews thoroughly we cannot admire his brusque style of writing, which often goes without the bounds of Knightly courtesy, license in no way justified by his age and his long service as a member of the Guild. Nor do we feel disposed to excuse him for his inference that we are "disposed to excuse the mixologist and dispenser of liquid damnation, because he is honest, never drinks, chews, smokes or swears." All we said was "that very few of those in other business, who are accepted, can have as much said in their favor." If Brother De Lap himself has none of these failings he is too good for this mundane sphere, and like Enoch of old should be translated.

"There are others" who hold a different opinion, unless they tell stories. Aside from this, it makes no possible difference to us whether our

style suits them or not. It is barely possible that we know as much about knightly courtesy and the proprieties as does our critic. Speaking of age, etc., we are too old to be taught by boys or novices. Not that we are wise above measure, in our own conceit, or in reality, because we are not. We regret that our style does not suit our brother, but our regret is not sufficiently deep or poignant to induce us to change it now, and with this we dismiss the subject.

We beg to suggest to Brother Prather, Grand Recorder, that our late Grand Commander is named "Frank Burkitt," not "Buskitt," as he has it!

R. E. Sir Nathan L. Agnew is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1905.

The Eleventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Chickasha, April 20th, with R. E. Sir William F. Bowman, Grand Commander, presiding and E. Sir Joseph Samuel Murrow, Grand Recorder. The attendance was large for so small a jurisdiction, and included 5 Past Grand Commanders, 10 Grand Representatives, a big lot of Past Commanders and Delegates from 5 out of 6 Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Right Eminent is short and sweet, but devoid of general interest.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest, only. The Order in that bailiwick is in fairly good condition. The treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$788.24. Total membership, 293, a gain of 21. There is no report on Correspondence, nor have they a committee to do the work.

R. E. Sir John Coyle is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

KANSAS—1905.

The Thirty-sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Leavenworth, on the 9th of May. There were present: R. E. Sir John C. Postlethwaite, Grand Commander; E. Sir Thomas J. Alexander, Grand Recorder, together with all the other Grand Officers, ten Past Grand Commanders, twenty Grand Representatives, a multitude of Past Commanders and Delegates from forty-nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, but well written, resume of an uneventful, but creditable administration. He notes the presence of the Grand Representatives and remarks that they "are a necessary part of this Grand Commandery as an exemplification of the universality of those principles of truth which we so earnestly endeavor to promulgate and disseminate!" He may be right about this, but we confess that up to this good hour we have been laboring under the impression that there is more uncombe about the system than benefit. We have heard it said, repeatedly, that the Lord made nothing in vain, but it has always seemed to us that these appendages were the exceptions that prove the rule. However, as our Broth-

er Postlethwaite has figured them out as belonging to a somewhat exalted plane, in the economy of the Order we will let it rest at that.

He says of the *Home*, that it is "truly filling the command to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted," which is an exalted mission as well as one very pleasant to the eye of the "Captain of our Salvation."

He received an application for a dispensation for a new Commandery at Garden City, but as Dodge City Commandery put up something of a kick he simply turned the matter over to the Grand Body, which referred it to his successor with license to use his own judgment, and there the matter rests. He made but one decision and that was correct. He devotes considerable space to the Triennial, a subject that does not interest this committee to any alarming extent. His visitations were quite general and productive of good, no doubt. The address, as a whole, is a most excellent one, creditable alike to its author and the Jurisdiction over which he presided.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The Order is in a most healthy and prosperous condition. Treasury balance, to the good, \$4,737.16, General Fund, \$613.56, Triennial Fund. Total membership, 3,939, a gain of 158.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the fifth offense in regular succession, of our good brother, William M. Shaver and like the other four, is a good one. It covers over 100 pages, and reviews, carefully and intelligently, the proceedings of the entire family of Templar Grands, save Oklahoma.

Our Brother William gives our doings at Greenville, not quite two pages of pleasant attention, says Grand Commander Henry's address is "a compact business document, of about three pages." He has a pleasant word for and quotes liberally from our report, for which we are not ungrateful. Under New Jersey he has this to say to the Apostle Peter, who accused us of some dereliction in our interpretation of Scripture, a couple of years ago, to all of which we responded fully last year. As Brother William is on our side we excerpt the whole business:

He breaks a lance with Frater DeLap, of Mississippi, over a theological question:

He backs us up in our opinion that BELDEN of Arizona is heterodox in his Scriptural views and interpretations; but goes still further and says that we are a little off in our saying that the Lord promised to build His church on PETER. We very much dislike to be compelled to substantiate our position by reference, and equally dislike to tell our friend DELAP he is wrong, but it is necessary. If GEORGE will turn to Matthew xvi, 13 to 19 inclusive, he will find the entire record of the incident. SIMON'S confession of faith is verse 16, and the Master's answer, "And I also say unto thee, that thou art PETER, and upon this rock will I build my church." What rock? Not PETER himself, even though it might be a very pretty play on words, but on the implicit confidence and faith as exemplified in the impulsive PETER more than in any other of the disciples. Love, faith, confidence, abode in all save the apostate, but greatest of all in PETER. We do not hold to the Romanist belief in the omnipotence of ST. PETER by any means, and we would endorse DELAP'S view that the CHRIST was and is the Rock of Salvation upon

which the Church of GOD rests to-day;" but GEORGE must not say we are "off" in our quotation.

Now, we have not a copy of Mississippi, 1903, before us, and hence know nothing of the merits of the original controversy between these doughty Knights, but as our distinguished friend, Sir Knight PETER, seems to be posing as a Bibleist, not only in the above paragraph but in several places throughout his report—a trait we greatly admire—we feel constrained to ask whether he does not desire to "try again" and amend the foregoing quotation from Matthew xvi. 18 before he finally "rests on his laurels"? While the errors are slight and immaterial, yet as "Truth is a divine attribute," we are compelled to remark that PETER was "off" in his quotation according to the "Scripture" of either the St. James or revised versions.

Again, is not his logic a little illogical in the light of the text and context? The question of the Master was: "But whom say ye that I am?" The answer of PETER, "Thou art CHRIST, (the CHRIST R. V.), the son of the living God," states the truth; the "rock" upon which IMMANUEL did build his all-prevailing church, namely, that Thou, JESUS of Nazareth, art the CHRIST, the Anointed One, the Messiah, the "Son of the living God." The divinity of JESUS CHRIST is the rock of the Christian church. Pardon us for heaving a "rock" into the ring.

Peter's idea that the implicit faith of his ante type, SIMON PETER, is and was the "rock" on which our Lord built His church, while very flattering to Peter, (Simon) is exceptionally poor theology. We would be glad if William will read our reply to the Apostle Peter in our last report.

R. E. Sir Bestor G. Brown is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as of yore.

KENTUCKY—1905.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Conclave at Richmond, March 24th. The opening was preceded by an excellent sermon from a sentence in our Lord's prayer as recorded in the 17th chapter of John's Gospel: "Sanctify them thro' thy truth; thy word is truth." The Grand Prelate, E. Sir and Rev. Dr. J. M. Worrall, pronounced the discourse.

After the sermon they indulged in the luxury of an address of welcome, made by a local Sir Knight, Senator and Sir Knight James B. McCreary, in which he stated that the heart and homes of the people of Richmond were open to them, but is silent as to the price. It is pleasant to note the absence of any special reference to hospitality.

The response was made by P. G. Commander Witt, and it is a real good one. After these little episodes the Grand Commander opened the Grand Commandery for business and delivered his address, which opens with an expression of gratitude to the Father of Mercies for all His goodness to them in the year just passed. He then expatiated on the delights of the San Francisco picnic. He then reported that he had authorized 38 petitions to be acted on upon the jump, and allowed several of his Subordinates to put on their swords, etc., and parade, all of which was the correct thing for him to do. He made several decisions. We quote the first:

Decision 1.—What is the position of a Sir Knight who had been expelled from his Commandery, and after the lapse of several years having again

affiliated with both Lodge and Chapter was restored to good standing in the Order—but not to membership in the Commandery?

Answer.—The position of this Frater is exactly that of a dimitted one. He can petition any Commandery he may desire for membership.

We suppose the decision is correct, in law, but the punishment for so slight an offense, non-affiliation in lodge and chapter, is rather heroic.

His portrait makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest only. Order in good, healthy condition. Treasury balance, to the good, \$2,162.19. Total membership, 3,166, a gain of 179.

CORRESPONDENCE

covers 101 pages and is the thirty-second offense of our venerable friend and brother, Charles R. Woodruff, and is good, as were the others.

Brother Charles only devotes one page to our doings at Greenville, but what he says is kind and fraternal. We would make this review more extended but for the fact that the yellow fever is with us and we do not feel like writing. We copy his closing:

Finishing our Thirty-second Annual Report on Correspondence to the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, in having submitted in review a goodly array of Templar Annuals, we are fortunate in adding testimony to the absolute harmony existing throughout the Order of the Temple wherever its organizations are stationed.

This happy condition has been greatly advanced by the "union of hearts and the union of hands," in evidence at the recent Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, U. S. A., at San Francisco, where the leading Templars of the English-speaking world assembled to do honor to the service in which we are enlisted. The growth of the Order maintains an increasing percentage year by year, numbering at present about a hundred and fifty thousand Knights Templar, and showing undiminished devotion to the best and noblest teachings of the rituals.

R. E. Sir John W. Landrum is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

LOUISIANA—1905.

The Forty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of New Orleans, February 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir Geo. W. Booth, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, Grand Recorder; nine Past Grand Commanders, a couple of Past Deputy Grands, sixteen Grand Representatives and Delegates from eight Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Right Eminent is a model of brevity, elegant English and good sense. It is confined to matters of local interest. We note, however, that while he had over \$500 with which to pay the expenses of the trip to San Francisco, that he only spent \$57.50. He remarks: "Possibly more might have been spent, (No doubt about that Brother Booth), but it was beyond my comprehension how it might be *profitably spent*. I paid all the expenses, and there is no question of unsettled claims to worry us. As it

is, we will have more to spend for the thirtieth Triennial, and I hope there will be more to help us spend it."

In his conclusion he calls his command, "True and Loyal Soldiers of the Cross" or rather says that they have been so. We hope this is entirely true, but we suppose he was speaking in general terms. There are over five hundred Templars in Louisiana and to suppose that all of them are sincere, genuine, godly Christians, as that is what all true and loyal soldiers of the Cross are, is a little more than we can stand, unless our brethren of the Pelican persuasion are entirely different from those of Mississippi.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Grand Treasurer reported a balance to the good of \$1,467.92. Total membership 557, a gain of 37. The Order seems to be in excellent shape, all of which is pleasant. There is no report on Correspondence, which is bad.

R. E. Sir T. H. Scovell is Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Richard Lambert is Grand Recorder.

MARYLAND—1904.

The usual Semi-Annual Conclave, held for the purpose of installing officers elect of the Subordinate Commanderies, was held on April 4th, Easter Monday, and that duty performed and also action had in reference to attendance on the Triennial at San Francisco. These matters having had attention, the Conclave adjourned 'till court in course.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Baltimore, November 22nd. Present: R. E. Sir Edward Church, Regester, Grand Commander, presiding; E. John Henry Miller, Grand Recorder; 20 Past Grand Commanders, several other Past Grands of an inferior grade, a multitude of Past Commanders and the Representatives from each of the 13 Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short resume of an uneventful administration. His dispensations numbered but two, and neither of these for the usual purpose, which is decidedly out of the usual course. He made no decisions, but did make quite a batch of recommendations, among them an increase of the salary of Grand Recorder. We note that the committee recommended the adoption of all the suggestions of the Grand Commander, except the one under discussion, and this reminds us of the proceedings of a "War Meeting" which was held up North during the late unpleasantness. The meeting was intensely patriotic and great interest was expressed in the comfort and welfare of the soldiers in the field and the necessity of keeping up enlistments, etc. Many patriotic speeches were made, the greatest enthusiasm was manifested, until an old cock in one corner moved that a fund for the purposes named be raised, by each one present contributing the sum of one dollar, whereupon one of the most blatant patriots jumped up and moved to amend the original motion by striking out the words, "Fund" and "Dollars!" The amendment was adopted almost unanimously and meeting adjourned. It is a peculiarity of ordinary patriotism, that it strikes a man in the head, drops to the heart,

opens the mouth and thence goes to the pocket, where it is lost in an intense, or acute attack of conservatism. That was what ailed that committee. They did not care to disturb existing conditions, preferring that our Brother John Henry should work for them for nothing and board himself! We note, with great satisfaction, that the Grand Body sat down on the report of the committee, with a dull thud, and raised the salary. The same committee, which seemed to be "long" on economy, in certain directions, and buncombe of all sorts, and "short" on simple justice, reported another resolution placing an additional tax of 25 cents a head on the members, *to be placed in the Triennial fund!* This resolution was likewise knocked into smithereens by the Grand Body! Amen. Selah. The address as a whole, is a very good one. A nice picture of its author adorns the pamphlet. When we use the word "adorns" in this connection, we mean that the party is good looking.

The proceedings were devoid of general interest, except as noted above. The Treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$2,665.38; total membership, 1,489, a gain of 48.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the finished work of our good friend and brother, Grand Recorder John H. Miller, and like its predecessors from the same distinguished source, is all that it should be, which is praise enough.

Bro. Miller's review of the doings of the Grand Encampment is very full and explicit and we would be glad to copy it all, for your information, but there is too much of it.

Mississippi at Greenville, gets over three pages of very pleasant and fraternal attention. He says of Grand Commander Henry's address that it "covers only four pages, and is a model, though concise business paper, etc." It may be a little risky to copy this praise of our good friend "Hy's" style, but we will venture to do it, although he is already a trifle vain. Of our report he says:

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Sir Knight E. George De Lap, P. G. C., and covers 100 pages of delightful reading matter, with not a dull moment in it. Frater De Lap has let up on P. G. Commander Belden, of Arizona, to some extent—says he is not responsible—and has turned his guns, which are smooth bore and never hurt those who know him, against P. G. Commander Speed, the E. Grand Recorder, whom he accuses of being vain. Well, possibly he is correct, as we never knew a small man—in statue, we mean—that was not more or less filled with a good opinion of himself, and especially if he had a good strong voice. Fraters De Lap and Speed are the best of friends and enjoy sparring with each other, metaphorically speaking. The latter having accused the former, in a foot note to his report, of bad writing, and a total disregard of all rules, of punctuation, and an "infernal" ingenuity in writing names so they could not even be guessed, Frater De Lap replies as follows:

After copying our reply to Fred's note, he adds:

Frater Speed, however, being the E. Grand Recorder and proof reader, as he claims Frater De Lap is too lazy to do his own proof reading, has the whip hand of the latter, and again gets back at him with the following foot note:

There is very little probability of Fred and this scribe getting into a real fight, because he knows that he would have no chance and will steer clear of us, along those lines.

He concludes with a few pleasant and flattering encomiums of our work, for which we are not ungrateful. We copy a part of his conclusion, at the same time expressing our sincere sympathy with him in his affliction:

Again our task is done—we say task, because every word has been written in a business office and during business hours and with sore hands—and we are not satisfied with it, as we fear there are many repetitions of the same criticisms to be found in it. Some Grand Commanderies still close instead of adjourning, as required by the Grand Encampment law, while others endorse unlawful and unnecessary dispensations by their Grand Commanders in defiance of said law, and we fear some will always do so, as they do not seem to read the law which they obligate themselves to enforce but act according to the *custom of "the Jurisdiction"* in which they reside; in other words, they seek the advice of some who knew the law of a decade ago, but are not well posted now, and who have nothing to fear should censure follow their unlawful advice. Peace and harmony, however, prevail through out the Templar world, and the Order is making rapid strides and gaining in membership, wealth and influence, and is greatly assisting in maintaining our Masonic Homes and Orphanages.

R. E. S. D. Medairy is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

----- MICHIGAN—1905.

The Forty-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Detroit, June 13th. The attendance was large. Grand Commander R. E. Sir Richard D. Swartout presided with E. Sir Henry L. Anthony, at the Grand Recorder's desk, the whole supported by eighteen Past Grand Commanders, Grand Representatives and Delegates from forty-six Subordinate Commanderies and a long list of Past Commanders.

The address is gotten up on the happy-go-lucky-easy plan of copying Correspondence, which is not the best, tho' it is the easiest way to do the work. Appropriate mention is made of the knightly dead; the Order is reported as being in a healthy condition; the usual batch of dispensations were granted and for the same old purposes and a few decisions made, none of these of importance to us. A portrait of the author adorns the pamphlet. We say "adorns" advisedly, as he looks enough like our beloved brother, Ben White, to be his twin, and we all know that Brother Ben is not only a grand man but an exceptionally fine looking one as well.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. We note. Grand Treasurer's account shows a balance, on the right side of \$6,121.69. It shows, also, the payment of the "expenses" of four brethren who attended the funeral of a Past Grand Commander. Total membership, 6,889, a gain of 229.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the seventh offense of our good brother, Grand Recorder, Henry L. Anthony, covers 145 pages, reviews the proceedings of forty-four Templar governing bodies, including ours at Jackson, and is an exceptionally good one. Brother Henry complains of the absence of Michigan from our report. How it occurred we do not pretend to know, but it was, more than

likely, the fault of the redoubtful Fred. He makes mistakes and forgets things, sometimes; *WE* never do such things!

His attention to our doings though brief, (two pages) is kind, courteous and fraternal.

As it is very hot, we will copy a part of his "Conclusion," call it half a day and knock off.

Our work of review for 1904 is at an end. We have endeavored to lay before our readers such gleanings from the Templar field as will be of practical use and interest and we believe it will repay a careful perusal. At all events, much time and effort has been spent in the preparation of the report and we send it upon its mission in the hope that it will be favorably received. It was our good fortune to be present at the Triennial Conclave, held in San Francisco, and among the noteworthy events that there transpired, one of the most pleasant was the gathering of the Templar Correspondents coming from all sections of the country, many of whom we had never met before, but whose names were familiar. Preliminary to the banquet, a meeting was called at the office of Grand Recorder Davies at which the officers named below were elected and at which, much to our regret, we were not present owing to a prior engagement. However, we arrived in time to enjoy the feast of material and mental good things which were dispensed around the board at Marchaud's restaurant to which the meeting, after the election, adjourned. The menu card contained the following announcement:

After suitable reference to the Sir Knights of our employment, who, during the last Triennial term, have taken on immortality, the session will be devoted to friendly greetings and such extemporaneous talk as may be moved by the spirit of the occasion. No prepared sentiments will be submitted for digestion by this assemblage of Templar wisdom, and "lest you forget," Sir Knights as you "fall too," we remind you of the words of the immortal Burns:

"Some hae meat that cannot eat,
And some would eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
Sae let the Lord be thankit."

R. E. Sir Frank C. Holmes is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MINNESOTA—1905.

The Fortieth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Duluth, (a place made famous by certain remarks of Congressman Proctor Knott, of Kentucky, some years ago, and which has grown considerably since then), on April 26th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir George W. Buck, Grand Commander; E. Sir Edward M. Van Cleve, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, eight P. G. Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders and Grand Representatives, and delegates from 26 of the 29 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a well and carefully written resume of a most successful administration, but is confined to matters of local interest, except what he had to say about the San Francisco meeting, which is now ancient history. Eloquent and deserved tribute is paid to the mem-

ory and merit of the distinguished members of the Order, who have doffed their armor and entered upon the realities of Eternity.

He made no decisions, but did grant sixteen dispensations to ballot in a hurry, which was all right and proper. In his conclusion he says, that he has done the best he could and we are sure that he did well. His portrait makes a fine frontispiece to the pamphlet. A good face and a long head. There are indications, however, that he has had domestic troubles, as he is bald as a billiard ball on the top of his head.

The proceedings, like the address, were of local interest. The Order is prosperous and in good shape. Treasury balance, \$6,099.70, to the good. Total membership, 3,259, a gain of 155.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the first offense of Grand Recorder Van Cleve, which he introduces as follows:

Your Correspondent does not intend to apologize for this report because he will say nothing requiring an apology.

No intimation shall come from him indicating that this is his "first offense" as such a remark would be entirely unnecessary.

He will not ask any one to read it because he is sure they will do so without asking. His friends, if he has any, will read it just to discover what he has to say; his enemies, if he has any, will read it to find fault with it, and the Correspondents will read it because they have to.

Your Correspondent has learned one lesson well, namely, that while "the pen is mightier than the sword" *the shears are mightier than the pen*, and a free use of those "noble and glorious" implements would easily double the size of such a report, but they will not be used in this review, for the reason that the reviewer believes that an account of what has occurred in the various Grand Jurisdictions is preferable to a reprint of their proceedings.

While we are willing to admit that our brother gets up a good report, he will pardon us for suggesting that there is only one of the Mutuals that can dispense, successfully, with the shears and paste, altho' Brother Van can be considered a fairly good second. The report covers 105 pages and there is lots of information and sound sense in it, besides. His attention to our doings at Jackson is very full and fraternal, covering three pages of rather fine print. Referring to Fred's Report, he has these remarks:

The Grand Recorder, R. E. Sir Knight Frederic Speed, in submitting his report, expresses some pretty strong opinions in regard to the Code. He is very much disappointed that the Grand Encampment failed to amend the Code in such a manner as would facilitate the collection of dues. We quite agree with Sir Knight Speed that it should be possible to enforce the payment of dues without waiting until delinquents owe for three years.

He says of our report that it is a good one, but that it is unnecessary to state the fact, as everybody knows that is the sort of literature that comes from Mississippi, or words to that effect, for all of which we are obliged. He pleasantly supports the end of the "Title" log held by our Brother Montgomery, last year, but his position as well as that of Brother Thomas, is untenable and had better be evacuated. But here it is:

He takes issue with Frater Montgomery's attitude on the use of the expression "The Right Eminent, The Grand Commander," and says that it is

right because it has been used for a quarter of a century. We suggest that profanity has been in use rather more than that, but it seemed advisable to put a clause in the *Ten Commandments forbidding it*. See Exodus xx., 7. Frater De Lap still further argues in favor of the expression because Grand Recorder Speed uses it. This is a powerful argument, but we are of the opinion that Sir Knight Montgomery holds the best cards.

The argument that the City Council is addressed as "The Honorable, the City Council" is hardly an argument in these days.

We suggest to our Brother Van that his reference to Exodus is not apropos, for the reason that the law referred to is of divine institution and our remark anent the quarter of a century in connection with the other was along the line of the old saw, "Custom Makes Laws," especially when that custom is chronic, as in this case. He puts an appendix to his review of our report, which follows:

"APPENDIX."

Frater De Lap does not seem to be pleased with the change in Minnesota's Grand Recorder's office, suggests that the present incumbent is "a young aspiring duck" and pauses for a reply. We regret that he has no word of welcome for the newcomer, but hasten to assure him that we are neither a "young duck" nor an "old cock." To be candid with Brother De Lap we will say that while we have not been "reading and reviewing these pamphlets for the past quarter of a century" and *as a consequence* long past the age when we should have been chloroformed, we nevertheless confess to having been born fifty-four years ago of perfectly respectable parents neither of whom *wore feathers, or waddled or crowed*. As to how we chanced to be elected to our present position we must request our Mississippi Frater to be "graciously pleased to ask somebody else."

In our poor, weak way we have replied.

VAN CLEVE.

We beg to suggest to our brother, that what we were kicking at was the assumed resemblance in your bailiwick, with those that obtained in ours a year or two ago. Nothing personal, or unkind, was intended against any one. Brother Thomas M., is an old stager and a friend of many years and we simply did not want him treated unfairly. That is all. We welcome Bro. Van to a seat at the "Round Table," and commend his work as being up to the standard.

R. E. Sir Edward P. Sanborn is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

MISSOURI—1905.

The Forty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of St. Joseph, May 23rd. There were present: R. E. Sir William A. Hall, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir William H. Mayo, Grand Recorder, all the other grand officers, except the Grand Generalissimo, a long list of Grand Representatives, lots of Past Grand Commanders, a multitude of Past Commanders and representatives from nearly all the Subordinate Commanderies.

It is pleasant to note that there is no record of any welcoming speeches, bloviating about "hospitality" and such as that.

The Grand Commander's address is a well written epitome of a successful and creditable administration, in which, however, we find nothing

of special interest to outsiders. He issued the usual batch of dispensations and for the same old purposes, devoted considerable space to the "Triennial" at San Francisco, speaks encouragingly of their Masonic Home, which we are glad to say continues to be a great success, as well as honor to the Orders in that great state, and closes. He made but one decision and that unimportant, but correct. His portrait adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition. The Treasurer reported a cash balance, to the good, of \$4,816.67. The Grand Recorder reported a total membership of 5,288, a gain of 110, the smallest gain in a number of years. Past Grand Commander Belt, who was the first Grand Commander and assisted at the organization of the Grand Body, forty-four years ago, was presented with a Past Grand Commander's jewel. He must be very old now, or was very young when he held the reins. A letter from him was read, in which he asked the Body to remember him in the way they did, which, in this case, was perfectly right and proper. The courtesy should have been shown him long ago. In the hurry and rush of the twentieth century, there seems to be a tendency to rush those who have grown gray in the service, to the back seats and allow the rising generation, who have no experience and less judgment to run the "masheen," a state of things not at all creditable to those who are responsible for it. The rule is not confined to Masonry, the Templar Order or the state, but in the churches, as well. More's the pity.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the 28th, in regular succession from that Nestor of the Corps, Grand Recorder Mayo, and is, as usual, full, instructive, creditable to its author and interesting. It covers 122 pages of the pamphlet and digests the transactions of nearly, if not all, of the Templar Grands in this world of ours, our own, at Greenville, receiving courteous and kindly consideration. He copies from Sir Henry's address, with approval, and has a pleasant word for this Reporter, which is appreciated. We copy his Statistical Table, as usual, with thanks:

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KNIGHTS TEMPLAR STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Compiled by Wm. H. Mayo, Grand Recorder of Missouri.

GRAND COMMANDERY	Number of Commanderies	Knighted	Affiliated	Reinstated	Dimitted	Suspended	Died	Number of Members	Net Gain
Alabama	9	60	10	13	20	26	7	546	31
Arizona	3	35	3		2	7	9	245	20
Arkansas	16	132	7	8	24	6	11	774	180
California	39	581	84	14	60	56	80	4599	493
Colorado	27	144	37	13	24	19	31	1924	94
Connecticut	11	194	4	2	12	19	57	2684	112
District of Columbia	5	94	18	8	18	18	25	1692	59
Florida	9	132	21	6	21	7	6	537	125
Georgia	15	190	24	2	33	13	17	1284	153
Idaho	5							264	
Illinois	67	1022	124	49	266	145	203	11487	581
Indiana	47	484	89	13	76	32	77	4704	381
Indian Territory	5	25	8		4	1	1	273	29
Iowa	58	384	63	34	148	92	91	5371	150
Kansas	49	270	39	31	90	27	57	3781	166
Kentucky	26	279	44	23	58	44	45	2987	196
Louisiana	8	75	4	2	5	3	5	518	68
Maine	22	358	17	2	34	29	69	4317	245
Maryland	13	104	5	1	6	7	42	1489	48
Massachusetts and Rhode Island	46	736	35	4	121	100	218	14440	358
Michigan	46	425	36	7	50	37	102	6660	279
Minnesota	29	200	46	12	70	38	42	3104	108
Mississippi	21	139	7	4	9	18	13	979	110
Missouri	57	331	51	37	116	123	69	5288	110
Montana	12	101	40	2	33	9	14	629	87
Nebraska	26	180	19	12	39	14	17	1962	141
New Hampshire	11	113	127	1	21	14	60	2409	33
New Jersey	17	179	13	12	14	29	38	2255	123
New Mexico	8	37	3		7	12	9	363	12
New York	61	1314	102	83	151	204	267	15808	877
North Carolina	12	101	4	2	11	5	11	593	80
North Dakota	8	64	6	7	10	8	10	739	49
Ohio	59	987	82	83	97	155	176	11178	724
Oklahoma	9	43	15	2	9	10	4	499	55
Oregon	9	122	25	1	8	2	8	767	130
Pennsylvania	79	1496	114	4	103	113	244	16060	1154
South Dakota	14	63	6	6	32	13	11	941	19
Tennessee	15	64	14	13	27	16	19	1037	29
Texas	39	319	141	17	158	35	36	2865	278
Vermont	12	160	12	6	20	21	50	2062	87
Virginia	22	208	28	11	46	22	32	281	147
Washington	9	76	40	2	12	11	8	928	87
West Virginia	15	248	27	3	26	19	21	1960	212
Wisconsin	28	207	28	12	57	8	53	3527	129
Wyoming	8	39	5		8	2	3	442	31
Grand Encampment	15	195	11	1	30	10	23	1663	61
TOTAL	1121	12740	1618	565	2176	1600	2391	150995	8640

R. E. Sir William H. Hutters is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

NEBRASKA—1905.

The Thirty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Omaha, May 4th, with R. E. Sir W. J. Turner, Grand Commander presiding, and R. E. Sir Francis E. White, Grand Recorder. The attendance was large, among others a lot of Past Grand Commanders, Past Commanders, visitors and Representatives from twenty-three Subordinate Commanderies. (If our

memory is not at fault, we believe that the successor of our friend Belden, of Arizona, said that the word "Subordinate" as applied to Commanderies, is improper, hence we feel a delicacy about using it, altho' the great majority of people do not hold to the contention of our distinguished frater over in that "Neck of Woods)."

The Grand Commander's address is a business paper, from start to finish, but is almost entirely of local interest. We excerpt a single paragraph, from his "Opening Number," which is good. Here it is:

To some perhaps the year has been one of weary "Pilgrimage," to others, stern "Warfare," and to some, humble "Penitence," but whatever of sorrow or happiness we may have had, let the thought come to us, our Heavenly Father knows best, and with childlike faith trust Him.

During the year we have not had to record the death of an officer or past officer of this Grand Commandery, but there have fallen twenty-four of Nebraska's Knights Templar, to whose memory be honor done, and while we no more see their faces, we think of them as living on in a brighter and better world—

"There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore;
And bright in heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forevermore."

Appropriate tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the knightly dead. He issued about fifteen dispensations and only *ONE* of them to ballot on the jump! How is that for high? He made several decisions, none of them important, but all correct.

We find nothing in the proceedings of blood-curdling interest. The Order is in good shape in that bailiwick. Treasury balance, to the good, \$3,247.04. Total membership, 1,950, a gain of 68.

CORRESPONDENCE

A little over 100 pages of the pamphlet is occupied by interesting and instructive, or didactic reading matter, being the fifth report of our indomitable friend and brother, Grand Recorder White, in which he digests the proceedings of nearly the entire family of Templar Grands, as only he can do it, Mississippi at Jackson, getting a little over three pages of polite and fraternal attention. He has this to say of our Brother Frank's address: "How the printer ever got the address down out of the clouds and put into cold type is a mystery to us, as it is about the most flowery production that we have encountered during the present review." We always knew that our Frank was and is something of a "Crank," but this is the first time he has ever been accused of using flowery language, when promulgating his ideas. Not that he could not but because he is not built that way. Of Fred's deliverances he remarks:

The report of the Grand Recorder presents something entirely new in reports of this kind, being in the way of a general discussion of the Grand Encampment, its statutes and regulations. It partakes a little of the nature of criticism of what the Grand Encampment should do, and also what it neglects to do. After the necessary preliminary remarks, he offers several amendments to the law for the consideration of the Grand Commandery

of Mississippi. The Committee on Jurisprudence, however, who considered the amendments, concluded that the Grand Commandery had no remedy for the conditions pointed out by Grand Recorder, and considered that their duty as true and loyal knights is to observe in letter and in spirit what we judge from their language to mean the constitution and statutes of the Grand Encampment. We agree with Grand Recorder Speed in all he says in regard to the inconsistencies of the law of the Grand Encampment. We do not care to express in writing our opinion on this remarkable document, but if anyone will stop in the office for about fifteen or twenty minutes, we will try to do the subject justice. We will, however, take the present opportunity to say that in our opinion the Grand Encampment is not now, never has been, and under its present methods of transacting business, cannot be a legislative body. It passes a good many laws, rules, and regulations without considering them, excepting through a committee whose reports are usually adopted for the reason that there is not time to consider them or to deliberate on them, and the action of the committees is accepted as final; then having made law in this way no attention is paid to its enforcement.

His attention to our report is flatteringly full and generally fraternal. What we object to is a certain remark in the annexed clipping:

Under New Jersey our good friend is still discussing Scripture with Frater McGill. We think last year the distinguished Sir Knights insisted that neither of them knew anything about the subject they were discussing, and so far as we have been able to learn, no one has disputed the claim. Under Pennsylvania some good Masonic history, which is not generally known is accredited to a young, learned and intelligent brother. The history of Masonry as quoted is practically correct, and we assume that De Lap's modesty is all that accredited it to another party.

Now we beg to suggest that while we intimated that the Apostle Peter, of New Jersey, in the United States, was away off in his understanding of Scripture, we did not say anything that indicated that we ourselves were at any loss to interpret the passage in question, but the contrary!

Another thing: He intimates that we are the "young and learned and intelligent brother," when he knows better and that whatever other crime we may commit, we never sail under false colors. We do not care enough about Masonic history and tradition, "as she is written," to waste time in reading it, but our young friend lacks our experience, judgment and, possibly sense, so he has rooted 'round to some extent.

He says in the next paragraph that notwithstanding the fact that we object to the word "Templarism" that our Frank used it in his address, and to this we reply that it makes little difference to us what words Frank coins, or uses, because he is a crank and we expect nothing better. He is, however, none the less an all 'round good fellow, a faithful friend and an upright gentleman.

Just to show how ready a writer and masterly condenser our Brother Francis is, we excerpt some more from his excellent and able report:

In a review of eighty-one pages Nebraska receives its full share of courteous and fraternal commendation. Grand Commander Vaughn's address is characterized as a well written, comprehensive resume of an uneventful but successful administration. He thinks the hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers," would do as well as another for the official hymn of the

Templars, but the legislative committee of the Grand Encampment thought otherwise, and it received about the same courtesy and followed the same road over the transom as the amendments of Past Grand Commander Speed of Mississippi. He has a good word to say for our Masonic Home, and makes a suggestion that if their Grand Lodge would start one in the same modest way they could accomplish something. Referring to Grand Commander Vaughn's portrait he says, "A strong, good face and a 'long head.' " We sincerely thank our good brother for the complimentary remarks he makes about our review, but when it comes to throwing in spice, Frater De Lap has the box. He quotes freely from our review of 1904 and copies our conclusion. He does not agree with our remarks that in case he went to Oregon to kiss all the good looking girls they would leave the state, but says such a catastrophe might happen if Brothers White and Belden should embark on that expedition; but if he went alone there would be a large immigration of the fair sex into that bailiwick. From the foregoing remark we have concluded that if it was generally known by the fair daughters of this land that such a good looking man as De Lap was in Mississippi there would be great danger of this country tipping up, so many of them would go there to see him.

In his conclusion the reviewer says there is not a ripple of strife disturbing the Templar family, nor is there a single thing to quarrel about. We have noted the absence of Belden of Arizona, and have been wondering what Sir George will do next. We do not understand his remark wherein he says that the recent presidential election has developed the most prolific and remarkable lot of liars that his memory recalls. Perhaps the good brother has learned that there is no difference between a politician and a liar. Generally speaking the terms are synonymous. He also refers to the prosperity of the Order, and closes with the following:

We knew a long time ago that politician and liar were synonymous. What we referred to, especially, was the claims made by the National Committee of the Democratic party that Parker would win in a walk, when they knew that he would not carry his own precinct. We are not kicking against results, but in the interest of *TRUTH* and *VERACITY*. As we have already devoted more space to Francis than he deserves, we will quit.

R. E. Sir Carroll D. Evans is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, same as before.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1905.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Concord, September 27th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir Thomas M. Fletcher, Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank D. Woodbury, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Junior Warden and Warder, 12 Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, a long list of Grand Representatives and Delegates from 11 Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short, business document, but contains nothing of special interest to outsiders. He visited every Commandery in the state, save one, and reports the condition in which he found each one, the sum total being satisfactory, in the main. Proper and affectionate tribute is paid to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. His dispensations were few and unimportant, though for proper purposes.

The proceedings were of the usual routine character and devoid of general interest. The treasury contained a balance to the good, of \$1,575.92. Total membership, 2,409, a gain of 33.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the fourteenth offense, in regular succession of our old and valued friend. A. S. Wait, and like others, is all wool and a yard wide. It is quite voluminous, covering considerably more than 100 pages, and digests the minutes of forty-one Templar Governing Bodies, Mississippi for 1904 getting its full share of fraternal and courteous attention. He quotes liberally, considering its length, from the address of Grand Commander Henry, has a pleasant word for your committee, but wonders what we meant by calling New Hampshire, "Warmount," etc. We are constrained to reply that we do not understand it at all. If we ever took a drink, or anything of that sort, we might attribute the mistake to "tangle foot," but as we do not know the taste of the stuff, it could not have been that, so we will simply apologize and let it drop. We would copy Brother Wait's "Conclusion" if it were not so long, as it is a real good one.

R. E. Sir Thomas M. Fletcher is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

NEW JERSEY—1905.

The Forty-seventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Trenton, May 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir John Henry, Grand Commander; E. Sir Thomas H. R. Redway, Grand Recorder; 14 Past Grand Commanders, 27 Grand Representatives, a lot of Past Commanders and Representatives from all the Subordinate Commanderies, (17).

We note, with great satisfaction, that no welcoming speeches were made, and no reference had to "hospitality" at current rates. Those ornamental, if not useful, appendages, the Grand Representatives, were welcomed in a neat little speech by the Deputy Grand Commander in which we find some reference to the founders of the Order, along the same old chestnutty line. No doubt the visit of the distinguished twenty-seven, had an elevating tendency and raised the moral mercury about 10 degrees, more or less. We hope so, at all events. Our good friend, the Apostle Peter, has need of help in that bailiwick, which is the mother of "Trusts" and seldom goes Democratic, in these years.

The Grand Commander's address is a brief resume of an uneventful administration. He congratulates the Grand Body on the prosperity of the Order in that jurisdiction, pays merited tribute to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, among them three Past Grand Commanders, of that State, Newell, Rowe and Muchmore, also Past Deputy Grand Commander Slee. May God be gracious to and comfort the loved ones left behind. His dispensations were few and unimportant. One "decision," which was that a waiver of jurisdiction over a candidate, is equivalent to a unanimous election. Correct. He reported the loss of the charter of the Body, and recom-

mended that a new one be obtained. He recommends semi-monthly Conclaves of the Subordinate Commanderies. Once a month is enough in this sort of weather, (July 27), and we object. His "Phiz" looks out from the frontispiece page. He looks like he would enjoy a joke, as well as get one off himself.

The proceedings are devoid of special interest to outsiders. Treasury balance to the good, \$2,266.99; total membership, 2,419, a gain of 65 plus 100.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the most interesting feature of this pamphlet, reviews the minutes 42 Templar Grands, Mississippi, at Greenville, getting five pages, and is the finished work of our friend the Apostle Peter (McGill) and like all his other efforts, is good, all good. His attention to our doings is exceedingly pleasant and kind. Here is a specimen:

The practical side of our Mississippian Fraters' charity was shown by a collection amounting to \$165.76 being taken up for the Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum. We note that the appeal for aid was made by the Grand Recorder, R. E. Sir Frederic Speed. We have heard Speed's efforts and are convinced that he can "talk the legs off an iron pot," so are not surprised to hear of his brilliant success when his efforts are directed to pocketbook. We wonder, however, that De Lap's jealousy allowed him to make the appeal.

How perfectly he sizes up the redoubtable Fred! How much he mistakes in supposing that we are jealous of anybody or anything, least of all, Fred. We have heard him talk the tail off a cast iron monkey and put an audience to sleep, without half trying! There is one peculiarity about Fred, that we admire, and that is, that he never speaks without saying something of interest and abounding in sense. He is not much bigger than a piece of chalk, but has brain enough to stock a modern legislature and have enough over to use in his business. In these respects he resembles this writer!! Of Brother Henry's address he says: "The Grand Commander's address is delightfully short, covering only three pages. To be sure he had little to do, but he don't take long to tell how little it was." Our "Hy" does not believe in wasting anything, not even words, besides it doesn't take him all summer to tell a short story. Coming along down to our report he says:

The serious, dignified face of Frank Burkitt, the newly elected R. E. Grand Commander, looks at us from the frontispiece.

And now we come to the "milk in the cocoa-nut," the Correspondence Report, conceived, delivered and nurtured by the inimitable reviewer R. E. Sir George De Lap. He reviews the Proceedings of forty-three Grand Jurisdictions in 101 pages filled with humor. De Lap don't think much of Triennial entertainments. We give you a few characteristic paragraphs:

These remarks prove that Peter knows a good thing when he sees it. He then quotes liberally from our observations on "horspitality" and the foolishness that crops out in some quarters, Triennially. Still further along

he finds a mare's nest and proceeds to crow over it in the following unseemly and disreputable manner:

It is not often we catch De Lap off his base, but he's "it" this time. He says R. E. Sir Belden "made several decisions *all of which were in accord with the law as well as with common sense.*" Belden decided a Most Excellent Master could petition for the Orders of the Temple before he received the R. A., and was eligible because he expected to be a R. A. Mason, etc., etc. Commenting on Hodson's of Oregon, opinion of this decision (adverse of course), De Lap says:

He apparently has us where the hair is short, but only apparently, for the reason that we did not see the obnoxious deliverance, but endorsed the whole thing, as the boys used to swap knives, "Sight unseen." Besides it would have been hard for us to suppose that man of Charles' intelligence and learning, could be the author of such a theory. Notwithstanding all this, however, we acknowledge the corn and that Peter has correctly sized us up as "IT" in this case.

We again excerpt: To miss your review that year, De Lap, was much harder on us than it could possibly be on you. We missed a number that year "cos why?" Bechtel was very sick and infirm and mislaid them very successfully. As far as the introduction is concerned, we really wanted to know what the rest of them would say if we repressed ourself. But the grace in this case would be: "Make the other fellows patient with what is set before them!"

All right, Brother Peter. We hope Brother Bechtel is well again, altho' we note his absence from the Grand Recorder's desk.

We also copy the tail end of his epilogue and commend it to your attention and careful consideration. God bless our Brother, in all things, both in his goings out, and his comings in, also in basket and in store. Amen.

We believe this magnificent Order, composed of the best brains, men and principles, is doing a good work in society in general and in the land in particular. But see to it, Fraters, that nothing we do shall in any way bring disgrace or dishonor on ourselves or our Order. Much is expected of us in precept and example, and every eye is on us to note our success or our failure. May we be steadfast in the performance of every duty that devolves upon us by reason of our high standards and professions.

R. E. Sir Jacob Kirkner is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondence as before.

NEW MEXICO—1904.

The Fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Albuquerque, October 24th, with R. E. Sir Alex Stevens, Grand Commander presiding; E. Sir A. A. Keen, Grand Recorder. The attendance was quite small, several of the official staff being absent.

The Grand Commander's address is another one of the short kind, which suits us exactly. The address is not only short but devoid of interest to the outside world. The proceedings were routine and of local interest only. The Grand Treasurer reported a cash balance to the good of \$904.76, including

the charity fund, which is \$203. Total membership 303 a net gain of 12. There is no report on Correspondence.

R. E. Sir E. A. Cahoon is Grand Commander; Sir A. A. Keen, Grand Recorder.

NEW MEXICO—1905.

The Fifth Annual Conclave was held in the of Albuquerque, October 19th. Present: R. E. Sir E. A. Cahoon, Grand Commander; E. Sir A. A. Keen, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers and Representatives of six Subordinate Commanderies.

The address is a short resume of an uneventful administration. Nothing startling, blood-curdling or of special interest to outsiders. He made but one decision and that one correct, issued a few of the old brand of dispensations and performed the other duties of his office to the best of his ability, and that was good enough.

The proceedings are devoid of general interest. Order in good shape, Treasury balance, to the good, \$573.54; Charity Fund balance, \$424.69; Triennial Fund, \$193.00. Total membership, 386, a gain of 23.

They have engaged room at Saratoga for the Triennial in 1907, but are minus a report on Correspondence!

R. E. Sir A. H. Harlee is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

NEW YORK—1905.

A ponderous tome of 372 pages contains the proceedings of the Ninety-second Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the Empire State of New York, which convened in the city of Saratoga, (Grand Recorder Bonnington, calls it a village, but down here we would call it a metropolis), on Tuesday, September 5th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir John Little, Grand Commander; E. Sir John H. Bonnington, Grand Recorder; all of the other Grand Officers, 11 Past Grand Commanders, a multitude of Grand Representatives, Past Commanders and Representatives from 60 Subordinate Commanderies. Previous to the delivery of the address, sundry and divers distinguished visitors were introduced and welcomed with appropriate honors, among them being our Brother Melish, also Brother Arthur MacArthur and two others, all officers of the Grand Encampment. There were others, but as these two are among our most valued friends, we name them. The usual welcoming speeches and replies were indulged in, but all were brief and very good. The Grand Commander then delivered his address, which is a complete resume of a most creditable and successful administration. He pays eloquent tribute to the exalted worth of three of the Grand Officers of that Jurisdiction, whom the Lord had called home during the year, among them, our valued friends, Grand Prelate, Reverend Cornelius L. Twing, one of the brightest minds in the ministry and the Order, and the peerless Jesse B. Anthony, Correspondent, who has stood at the head, or near it, of the grand men that compose the Reportorial

Body. Of course the word "grand" does not nor is it intended to apply to this writer, who is one of the humblest among them, and who is content to stand and serve while many of them sit at meat. Peace to their ashes and a blessing upon the memory of those justly distinguished members of our Order, to which we add a prayer to God for the comfort and consolation of their loved ones left behind.

He made quite a number of decisions and all correct, except, this: A member was suspended for non-payment of dues, but he afterwards forwarded a check for the amount, whereupon the Commandery refused, by a majority vote to re-instate him. The query was: "Can the amount tendered be legally retained by the Commandery?" The answer of the Grand Commander was, yes, and to this we demur. Non-payment of dues is not a crime against either morality or Masonry, in a large majority of cases, hence it would be more in consonance with the principles of the Order, to investigate the causes for non-payment, and where they are simply thoughtless neglect or an inability to pay, extreme measures are out of place. The action of the Commandery indicated that they either desired to get rid of the frater for some cause, or that he had committed a crime. If the latter, while it was an easy and expeditious way to oust him, it was not the right way. He was dropped for cause; he removed the cause, and in the very nature of things the effect should cease, so when the Commandery refused to recognize this law of physics, they should have returned the check. These ideas of ours may not be in conformity with law, but they will stand as a rock in equity, and in an Institution like ours, the latter should always "have the right of way." In this bailiwick, suspension for N. P. D. simply holds membership in abeyance until the dues are paid, when the culprit like the prodigal son, is restored to the bosom of the family without vote or caucus, and, in our opinion, that is the right way to do things. But up there, instead of killing the fatted calf and welcoming the wanderer home, they kill the prodigal himself, and cast him into outer darkness! We object. Here is another one that has an uncanny look:

Question—Is it proper for the Recorder to enter upon the records the character of a report of the Investigation Committee on an applicant for the Orders?

Answer—No. Any further than that the report is favorable or unfavorable; the character of the report cannot be discussed by the Commandery; the Committee cannot be questioned on the subject, nor has the Committee any right to say anything whatever about it. A ballot, however, must be taken, whatever the report of the Committee may be, and the candidate declared duly accepted or rejected. Finally, the character of the report must not appear on the records, nor shall it be read to the Commandery, other than that it is favorable or unfavorable.

It is news to us that a body has no right to hear the full report of its own Committee, or to question them in any way, as to the reasons for their findings. The idea simply places the creature above the creator and puts things out of joint. No man has a right to discuss, in a Masonic Body, the eligibility or otherwise, of a candidate for the degrees, after the report of its committee, nor question the correctness of that report, except by ballot,

but the body has a perfect right to know, by hearing it read, in its entirety, the report itself. We note, without a quaver, that all the decisions were approved by the Law Committee.

He granted no dispensations to ballot on the jump, which is out of the usual course to an alarming extent. He refused to allow a Commandery to "ballot" for, elect and confer the Orders at the same Conclave. We do not see why, provided the petition had laid over for the proper time, which we suppose was the case. Among his decisions was one that a Commandery could properly do exactly what he refused in this case. Under "Interstate 'courtesies'" he uses the word "invade," in the case of one of his Sub-ordinates wishing to go visiting across the line into Pennsylvania, which we regret. His visitations were quite extensive, and no doubt, were beneficial. The address, as a whole, is an admirable paper. A portrait of its author adorns the pamphlet. A strong, but very pleasant face.

The proceedings were devoid of special interest to an outsider. The Order in that "neck of the woods," is on a boom and they are after Pennsylvania with a sharp stick, in the race for the head of the column in the matter of affiliated Templars. We made a mistake, last year, by hitting the wrong key of our machine and butting two figures on top of each other, thus robbing New York of 10,000 members and leaving her away behind Pennsylvania, when, in fact, she is a close, a mighty close second. We apologize.

The Treasury holds a balance on the right side of \$15,594.67. Total membership, 16,627, a gain of 819. This brings them pretty close to the Key Stone State.

We note in the minutes a multitude of letters and telegrams of regret, but fail to find ours written in response to a courteous invitation to be present at the Annual Conclave. We replied, of course, and do not see why we were left out. We allude to this only because we do not wish to be thought impolite.

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Owing to the untimely death of Brother Anthony, this work was assigned to new hands for completion, and they have done their work as well as could be expected from more experienced workmen. We presume that Brother John W. Jenkins, the chairman of the Committee, prepared the report, although it is signed by all three. It is quite voluminous, covering 168 pages, and reviews the proceedings of forty-six Grand Bodies. Mississippi, at Jackson, getting full and courteous notice. He says of Fred's report, that it is an interesting document and is well worth perusal. He then copies a goodly share of it, and adds: "There is so much force in what Frater Speed says that we have done as the child did, who grew tired of saying the Lord's prayer night and morning, simply cut it out and pasted it (not on the head of the bedstead), but in our report, at the same time using the language of the tired kid when he said, 'them's my sentiments.'" We suggest that this sort of perfunctory prayer is much too common for the advancement of spirituality in the world. It is too often the case, also, that

the petitioner addresses his alleged prayer to the congregation, instead of God, and under these conditions no appreciable benefit is likely to result.

We copy what he has to say of our report for the purpose of begging his pardon for reducing the Templar population of his Jurisdiction, by 10,000 Democrats and Republicans. It is very seldom that we make mistakes, but this was a whopper and looks bad. We are sorry. The redoubtful "Fred" writes us that if we lay the blame for this mistake on the intelligent compositor, or proof reader, that he will make Rome howl and do some other disreputable things. It is always a pleasure to us to own up when we are wrong, as we probably were, in this case, but it must be understood that Fred's threats cut no ice in bringing forth the apology. Here follows the excerpt:

Our esteemed Frater and Representative in Mississippi, Right Eminent Enoch George DeLap, furnishes his usual "feast of fat things," and no one should feel hungry after partaking of the bounteous repast he offers for our delectation. We wish we had the time and space to quote him fully, but this is denied us. New York has kindly and courteous notice. In regard to the standing of the different jurisdictions he becomes very rash and offers to wager "dollars to doughnuts that New York passes the Keystone State in three years." Too long, Sir De Lap, altogether too long. You will have an opportunity of enjoying your "doughnuts" long before three years roll around, but let it be understood that we do not take your figures as a basis of our present membership in deciding the bet. You have robbed us of ten thousand true and valiant Sir Knights at one fell swoop, and we will have to do some tall hustling indeed to come out on top with such a handicap as that to start with. But we suppose you will blame it on "Fred" as usual, so what's the use?

We know our esteemed contemporary will regret to hear of the death of our immediate predecessor, Sir Jesse B. Anthony, who for so many years so good-naturedly and courteously tilted with him, and trust that he will accord to his successor a kindly welcome to the Knights of the Round Table.

We shall be glad when our state gets ahead of Pennsylvania, as we do not like to be below the head of the column, so hurry things up a little, Brother Jenkins.

We copy from his conclusion, his eulogy of our beloved Brother Anthony, and endorse every word of it.

Our task is done. We entered upon it with a sense of diffidence, realizing that we were following one eminent in this particular field of Masonic endeavor, and one whose experience and talents would make it a difficult task indeed for any one to successfully follow. We approached our work with a feeling of reverence induced by a knowledge of the character of him who had preceded us; and the Divine injunction given unto Moses seemed to stand out before us in letters of fire: "Take off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." And so we considered it, and in that spirit we have endeavored, to the best of our ability, to prosecute the work.

JESSE B. ANTHONY: What a flood of memories the name suggests! The kindly spirit; the sweet, low-toned voice; the winning smile; and the warm hand-grasp; who can ever forget them?

It was these that caused old men to weep like children at his death, and children to mourn his loss in heart-sobs of genuine grief.

It would seem as though he had a premonition that this work was almost done; that the weary pilgrimage was almost ended, and, perhaps, the glittering battlements of the Eternal City were already visible to his tired eyes. Among the selections which appealed to him in his final work as Chairman of this Committee was the following taken from the report of the Committee on Necrology for Iowa, and as it seems to fit our beloved frater's ideas of Death we have concluded to reproduce it in its entirety:

"Do you think that I fear you, Goodman Death?
Then, sire, you do not know;
For your grim white face and your frosty breath,
And your dark eyes, browed with snow,
Bring naught to me but a signal of love,
My Father sent you; He dwelleth above,
And I am ready to go.

"The battle is over, and we have won.
Perhaps you did not know
That just to-night the setting sun
Saw the turning of the foe.
If you had come in the thick of the fray,
I might not have wanted to turn away;
Now I am ready to go.

"Please steady me into your little boat;
Your arm—yes, thank you; there,
I think when we are well afloat
I'll sleep, if you do not care.
If I'm not awake when we reach the shore,
Tell Father I stayed till the battle was o'er,
And tried to do my share."

An abler pen than ours has already written his eulogy, and we have no desire to encroach on the prerogatives of the Committee on Necrology, but we felt that perhaps we might be pardoned if, out of the fullness of hearts surcharged with grief, we too should place upon his bier this simple flower of our love and affection.

R. E. Sir Erastus C. Knight is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

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NORTH CAROLINA—1905.

A special Conclave was held at the city of Newbern, August 10th, 1904, for the purpose of paying the last honors to Grand Commander Ulrich, who died in the city of Baltimore, August 8th. We beg to extend our sympathy and condolence to both the Grand Body and the family of the deceased. Peace to his ashes.

The twenty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Asheville, June 7th, with V. E. Deputy Grand Commander, L. A. Dodsworth, presiding; E. Sir James C. Munds, Grand Recorder.

There were quite a number of Past Grand Commanders and Grand Representatives present, also delegates from twelve Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the acting Grand Commander is a comprehensive resume of an uneventful administration. We copy a part of his opening:

I little thought when we separated at Raleigh one year ago that within two short months the duties of Grand Commander would become mine to discharge, and that the report of what Templarism has accomplished in this State, during the past year, would be made by me at this time and not by the distinguished frater whom you elected to the office of Grand Commander.

The dispensations of Providence are incomprehensible, and hard, sometimes, to reconcile with our own views of what is for the best. Why our beloved frater should have been taken from us, we cannot conceive; but as Knights Templar we are taught to believe "He doeth all things well," and to say with faith and humility, "Thy will be done."

As your Acting Grand Commander, I now submit a report of my official acts, to which I invite your attention.

He issued the usual batch of dispensations for the usual purposes and made but one decision and that of local import. In his conclusion he reports the Order in a healthy condition. Returns show net increase of 86 and total membership of 679. Finances in good order, cash balance in treasury, being \$1,143.17.

Proceedings routine and of local interest. One hundred and seven pages of the pamphlet are occupied by our Brother Southgate's report on

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in which he digests the minutes of most of the Templar governing bodies, in his customary interesting and didactic style, Mississippi at Greenville, getting her full share of polite and fraternal attention.

Brother Southgate copies from Brother Henry's address, pays him a compliment or two, copies a part of Fred's Christmas Order, and the tail in the shape of a toast: "To the queens of our hearts, the wives of Masons, the polished corner stone of our family temple, the daughters of Masons, and the sweethearts, whom we as Masons love." Brother Southgate remarks: "Speed ought not to tell his wife, if he has one."

He has some pleasant words for the work of your distinguished Reporter, which are appreciated, copies liberally and winds up with this remark: "It is well you spiked the guns of Speed, for when he shoots he usually brings the game, whether large or small. We know the metal of which he is made." So do we know! We know that, like ourselves, you, and I, he is made of mud and would not amount to shucks, any more than we would, had not God Almighty breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and made him a living soul. We are free to admit that Fred is a corker, as well as a darling, but it don't do to flatter him.

Owing to the prevailing health conditions, we do not feel like prolonging this review.

R. E. Sir L. A. Dodsworth is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

NORTH DAKOTA—1905.

The Sixteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Fargo, January 12. There were present: R. E. Sir George H. Phelps, Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank J. Thompson, Grand Recorder; all of the staff save one-half a dozen Past Grands, several Past Commanders, a lot of Grand Representa-

tives, including ours, and delegates from eleven Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Right Eminent covers nineteen pages, much space being occupied by reports of Inspecting Officers, which reports do not belong in that place and ought not to be there. Why our good Brother Phelps adopted this heresy, we cannot imagine, unless it was with the idea of lengthening out his address. If that was the reason, however, it was a poor one, brevity being the soul of wit as well the essence of good judgment.

He remarks, in his opening that he has attended the Grand Body for nine consecutive years, officially, which indicates that he commenced as Warder and worked his way up, jumping to Prelate, Treasurer and Recorder, which is right and proper, in his case, but "there are others" where it would be better for the Order if they fell by the wayside. He excuses himself for failure to visit his Subordinates by reporting the decease of his mother during the year. He has our profoundest sympathy in his bereavement. Only heaven can compensate for the loss of a good mother, unless it is the favor of God and comforting influences of His Holy Spirit. We commend him to that fountain for the mitigation, if not healing of the wound. "A mother may forget her child, but I will not forget thee," is what the Master Himself has said.

He granted the usual quantity of permits to ballot on the jump, which was all right. No decisions. He made quite a batch of "recommendations," among them one suggesting that a deliverance from the Grand Body, discouraging the use of wine or tangle foot at Templar banquets, would be a good thing to do, in which we concur, but we fail to find any action along this line by the Grand Body which we regret. The address is a good one. An elegant portrait of its author adorns the pamphlet. A fine head and good face. We detect, however, the absence of hair to such an alarming extent as to force the thought that, possibly, his wife has been after him with the broom-stick!

The proceedings were routine and devoid of general interest. The Order is in good shape, financially and otherwise. Total membership, 826, a gain of 53. Treasury contained a cash balance of \$2,045.63. There is no report on correspondence, which is all wrong and we hope will be corrected at an early date.

R. E. Frank H. Sprague is Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank J. Thompson, Grand Recorder.

OREGON—1905.

The Nineteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Portland, September 28th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir L. N. Roney, Grand Commander; E. Sir James F. Robinson, Grand Recorder; all the rest of the staff, save four, 11 Past Grand Commanders, 19 Past Commanders, 23 Grand Representatives, not including ours and the Representatives of all the Subordinate Commanderies. (9).

The address of the Right Eminent is one of the shortest on record, but as he said all he cared to say, probably, we are not objecting to its brevity at all. Brevity is not only the soul of wit, but the essence of good judgment.

ment, especially when constructing an address of this sort. He reports the Order in his bailiwick, as being in a healthy condition. He issued but three short cut dispensations, which is probably all that the boys asked for. He recommended that wine and intoxicants of all kinds be barred at Templar banquets, but the Grand Body paid no attention, which was wrong in principle and discourteous to the Grand Commander in fact.

The proceedings were short, sharp and routine. Treasury balance to the good, \$3,615.24. Total membership, 821, a net gain of 59.

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This is the sixteenth offense in this field of our old and valued friend and brother, Hobson, and like the other fifteen it is a good one. Nearly all the Templar proceedings are carefully and courteously digested. His review of Mississippi is of the administration of Brother Burkitt, and is extremely kind full and pleasant. He opens it with the following suggestive stanza:

Speak kindly to the elephant
And gently to the whale,
And when you meet the jaguar
Please do not yank his tail,
Respect the tiger's feelings, dear,
His whiskers do not pull;
Oh, let your heart with kindness
Be ever, ever full.

We assume that this is original poetry, as there are no quotation marks, and we congratulate our brother on its excellence and the appropriateness of the sentiments expressed. We also assume that Fred is the elephant, Hy. Henry the whale, and the undersigned the "Jaguar!" The advice is good, in each case and had best be followed, or there is likely to be trouble.

He says of Brother Frank's address: "We join him in the thought that Grand Commandery should, as a matter of both right and expediency, have some say about how Templar affairs should be conducted; but the laws of the Grand Encampment are just a little too binding." As these laws are subversive of the true principles of the Order, as well as presumptuous, it is in order to pay no attention to them. Of the redoubtable Fred, he says:

Brother Fred Speed goes after the Grand Encampment for both "over legislation" and "awkwardness" of expression, in which we, to some extent, sympathize; but unless somebody takes it up who has both the nerve and ability to carry the war into Africa, growling will do no good. The Grand Encampment is *IT*, and if any reform is to be had, *IT* must be convinced of the necessity and preparations made for carrying the reforms into effect in advance of the meeting of the Conclave, as but very little is done at any Conclave except that which is of the cut-and-dried character.

There is no doubt of the fact that in its own estimation, the Grand Encampment *IS* "*IT*" and will so continue until a lucid interval strikes its leading members and they come to realize what constitutes a Templar despotism, when they will kill the beast! He speaks pleasantly of our effort

as a Reporter, for which we are obliged. He copies our squib anent the Xmas Toast, and says:

We do no reverence whatever to the taking of a drink to celebrate or seal anything. No memorial, no sacrament, no supper of the present or the past is or has been rendered more sacred because of the drink. It is simply the form which has been adopted by our forefathers, was in vogue at the time when Christ taught, was practiced by him and his disciples, has been often used and sometimes abused all along the history of the world; but we have yet to know of a single instance where a brother got drunk or disgraced the Order toasting the Grand Master.

There are lots of good things in this report; in fact, Brother De Lap never writes one which does not contain much of value, but we cannot harvest the whole crop.

We have heard the gist of the above so often that it has become chest-nutty and not altogether a correct statement of the facts in the case. We are not disposed to strenuously object to the "Xmas Toast" business, as it is not likely that any considerable amount of damage will result, but we do object to the presence of wine at a Templar banquet, on the table, side board or in the stomach of a professed Christian. Godliness and alcohol do not mix worth a cent.

We doff our cap for the taffy contained in the closing sentence, of the above clipping. Our brother is a man of discernment and good judgment. We excerpt from his conclusion:

A few of the Jurisdictions have escaped our dissecting table, much to our regret; but from all sources comes the pleasing news of improvement and prosperity. We are advancing in light and knowledge, increasing in numbers, and the spirit of growth pervades the atmosphere, not only of our own country, but of others, particularly the English speaking peoples. We trust the standard may never be lowered, but the influences grow stronger and stronger until all the tribes of earth shall rise up and call us blessed. To each is committed a share, and if he does his individual duty all will be well served.

R. E. Sir D. C. Agler is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

PENNSYLVANIA—1905.

The Fifty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Williamsport, May 23rd. There were present: R. E. Sir Wilson I. Fleming, Grand Commander; E. Sir William W. Allen, Grand Recorder and all the other Grand Officers, together with a multitude of Grand Representatives, visitors, Past Commanders and Representatives from the Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a business paper. We excerpt from "his opening chorus:"

My predecessor having left to me the splendid legacy of a united and harmonious body of knightly knights, the work of the year now completed has been both congenial and pleasant, and it will be my great pleasure to transfer to my successor the same happy condition, with a marked degree of progress along all lines of interest. May I express the hope that in the years to come we may have, not only material prosperity, but better still,

progress toward that high standard of Christian Knighthood which will reflect credit upon our beloved Order and honor upon the individual.

He pays proper tribute to the virtues of the magnanimous dead of the Order, and the list is a long one; made two decisions, neither of them of importance; issued a lot of dispensations, but none to ballot on the jump! In fact actually refused to grant dispensation for that purpose, all of which was wrong and subversive of the vested rights and privileges of the festive subordinate. One by one the roses fall! Two by two the domestic rights of the Subordinates follow suit, and it won't be long before the stock will be exhausted and the Subordinates will be bound hand and foot! Well we can stand it about as long as the rest of you.

He reported that Pennsylvania held up its end of the log, at San Francisco and that it cost \$3,943 and some cents to pay the piper. We would like to see an itemized bill of these expenditures. We copy from his "Recommendations," what follows:

Inasmuch as "we are all born to die," it is courteously recommended that all Officers and Past Officers of the Grand Commandery, together with those to be elected in the future, be required to file with the Grand Recorder a sketch of their civil and Masonic lives, with positions of trust and honor and Masonic preferment held by them, and that the Grand Recorder secure from each newly elected officer of the Grand Commandery, year by year, the above mentioned sketch, in order to facilitate the compilation of the "In Memoriam" issued on the demise of Officers or Past Officers of the Grand Commandery.

We are not partial to the plan of having every man write his own obituary. It has an uncanny look about it that does not please us. The average man is too apt to be prejudiced in his own favor, so to speak, and to make himself appear a trifle better than the facts warrant. We heard a story, many years ago, about two old sailors, who had quit the sea and become cronies on shore. One of them had prepared his own epitaph and when he shuffled off "this mortal coil" it was put where it belonged and read thusly: "Here I lie, just as snug as a bug in a rug." The other one took in the situation at a glance, and proceeded to meet the emergency by preparing the following for himself: "Here I lie a darned sight snuggier than that other bugger!" And thus it always is. We most always think we are better off in many respects than our neighbors, and do not fail, when occasion offers, to remind the world at large of the fact. All of the above is simply put in to fill up, and we are aware that it don't amount to much.

A portrait of the author adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were devoid of special interest to the outside world. The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition. Grand Treasurer reports a balance on the right side of \$7,136.98. Total membership, 16,813, a gain of 763.

CORRESPONDENCE

covers near half of the space in the pamphlet, reviews the minutes of nearly all the Templar family of Grands and is the finished work of our friend, Past Grand Commander Lee S. Smith, who went on a pilgrimage in search

of the "Holy Grail" last year and had some one else to do his work for him. It is strange what a propensity the Smith family has for tramping around and seeing things. It may be that they are visiting their numerous relatives, as there is no country, clime or kindred in which the Smith family is not a respectable as well as conservative quantity in the body politic. John Corson and Lee S., are the first among their equal, not only in the family circle but outside of it, as well. We are glad they have the needful to meet expenses and rejoice in the pleasure they have in their peregrinations.

Brother Smith's attention to our doings at Greenville, is quite full, fraternal and complete, covering a couple of pages. His tail (conclusion) has four joints, First, Conclusion; Second, Dispensation; Third, "Pretend" and Fourth, War. As in it he talks about our model for welcoming speeches and hospitality, we copy it entire:

PLAY PRETEND.

One of the Correspondents referring to the practice prevailing almost universally, of the mayors of cities where Conclaves are held delivering addresses of welcome to the cities and their hospitality, indulges in a very witty vein, and suggests that they should add, "at so much per." Well, to look at the matter from a purely practical and cold-blooded standpoint, and to eliminate from it all elements of romance and "play pretend," we must grant that it is rather ridiculous to offer the freedom of the city which the laws of the land made free, to offer the keys of a city that never had a gate or key, or to offer the hospitality which each individual must pay for (often at an advanced price over regular tariff). But, on the other hand, we are all "but children older grown," and this "play pretend" is a part of our lives now as it was when in youth we were the "rough and readies" of our several households. More than that, what would Masonry be without the "play pretend?" Did you ever stop to consider how vitally our fraternity depends on it for its very life and vitality? How long would it exist without it? Think of the necessity of our recognition of the assumed dignity of the chair in all branches of Masonry. Our nearest and dearest friend, who is and always has been Jack, Bill or Jim to us, takes this position as presiding officer in Lodge, Chapter or Commandery, and he immediately becomes another personage whom we must address by his official title, and without whose permission we would not dare or presume to cross or leave the room or to take the floor in debate. All of this is right and just as it should be, but is it not really "playing pretend?" One thing is beyond dispute: it is the foundation rock upon which our fraternity is built. Farther than that, we are not here very long, so let us go on "playing pretend," so long as it affords us pleasure and does wrong to none of our fellow men. These remarks must not be interpreted to mean that I ever approved of the now almost obsolete assumption that our Grand Commanders were like sovereigns or feudal lords of old presiding over a principality or kingdom, to invade which by a Subordinate Commandery of a sister Jurisdiction required a Dispensation granting permission. To our way of thinking that custom is unnecessary and carrying the "pretend" too far.

We are inclined to think that our brother is a little off color in assuming that pretense is the foundation rock of our structure, altho' there is lots of bunccombe in it, taken as a whole.

He thinks that war should be relegated to the shades of the past as a

hellish relic of the dark ages, all of which is nice in theory, but don't amount to much in practice. We shall be glad when the time comes "when the nations shall learn war no more" but that will be long after we have crossed the divide, and not until the righteousness of God shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea.

R. E. Sir William J. Diehl is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1905.

The Twenty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Aberdeen, June 16th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir Albert F. Pilcher, Grand Commander; E. Sir George A. Pettigrew, Grand Recorder; all the balance of the Official Staff, five Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, seventeen Grand Representatives, not including ours, and Representatives from fourteen out of eighteen Subordinates.

The Grand Commander's address is a business document, well written and comprehensive. Appropriate tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, among the number Past Grand Commander Morris H. Kelly, who passed to his eternal home in December of last year. Of other Jurisdictions he reports the death of Past Grand Master Hopkins, and thirty-one Past Grand Commanders! Peace to their ashes and may the comforting influences of the Holy Spirit fill the hearts of the loved ones left behind.

The address is an exceptionally brief one, and we commend this feature of it to the consideration and imitation of all Right Eminent, wherever dispersed. He granted no dispensation to ballot on the jump, and made no decisions. He reports the Order in good condition and the increase in membership large. His "phiz" adorns the pamphlet. Shows a good, strong face and head, a face that wins the trust and confidence of those who look upon it. The Almighty always writes a legible hand, and while we are not much of a physiognomist, (we are not exactly satisfied of the orthography of the last word, but if we are wrong, something that seldom occurs, Fred can look at the dictionary and correct, if needful. That is what we hire him for, and to read our proofs)! we seldom make a mistake of the character of a man after looking at his face.

The proceedings, like the address, are devoid of interest to outsiders. The strong box contained a cash balance to the good of \$885.62. Total membership, 977, a gain of 34.

CORRESPONDENCE

Our good brother, Sam (Jumper) jumps into the arena with this document, which is his tenth offense along these lines, in which he digests the minutes of forty Templar Governing Bodies in his usual clear, intelligent and interesting manner, Mississippi for 1905 getting her due allowance of fraternal and polite attention.

He says of Brother Frank's address, that it is "a most optimistic document, full of rich thought and choice language." He copies Fred's re-

marks in relation to dues in full, prefacing the excerpt with this remarkable language, which, though true, is calculated to make Fred vain, which would be sad: "Grand Recorder, Sir Frederic Speed, who, by the way, has no superior as a Grand Recorder, writes upon the question of dues as follows, and we make no apology for printing the whole of his remarks upon the subject." Then he pays the following deserved tribute to the same Fred: "The same Sir Knight as chairman of the Committee on Necrology, makes a most eloquent report, full of graphic word paintings and illustrations, the applications of which convey deep truths and wholesome lessons."

We regret to say that he changed the name of our beloved brother, Grand Commander John Foggo, to John "*FOGGS!*" This is pretty tough on Foggo, as he is anything but foggy.

He has this to say of your distinguished Reporter: R. E. Enoch George De Lap presents in his report, a most thrilling story of the work and progress of the different Jurisdictions of the world. We have read every word of his report, which is the highest compliment that can be paid to any Correspondent, and we wish every Sir Knight in the land could enjoy the same pleasure and reap the same benefit we have in reading it." We are more gratified with this endorsement of our efforts, and thank our good Brother Sam and congratulate him on his perspicacity and good judgment! We copy his conclusion, bodily, because it is an elegant paper. Read it.

At last we have reached our journey's end. During the year we have traveled down the alphabetical list of states from Alabama to Wisconsin, enjoying a brief but pleasant visit with each member of the guild. From everyone we have received the kindest treatment and been entertained in a most courteous manner.

In the sunny south we have breathed the rich fragrance of the magnolia and the palm and feasted upon "Old Mammy's spring chicken and corn pone;" on the Atlantic coast we took in the salt sea air and the succulent oyster; in New England we found the home of our boyhood days, while we supplied the appetite with the sleepy clam and the frisky bean; around the great lakes we breathed the healing fragrance of the pine and the evergreen and fed upon Battle Creek's "grape food;" in the far northwest we met the soft Pacific breezes and dined upon the golden salmon, fresh from the cold waters of the Columbia river; and in southern California we lingered and rested, delighted with the climate and the rich profusion of roses and flowers and the abundance of the best oranges in the world, upon which we feasted.

And now we find ourselves again in our prairie home, wondering which, of all the places we have visited, is the best. We like best the broad prairies reaching from horizon to horizon, ever swept by the most healthful atmosphere that circles any part of the globe.

And, my brothers, if you are patriotic and loyal to your native or adopted state, and your heart is in your home, to each of you your state will be the best and the surroundings the most beautiful. Yet in every human heart there is a longing for something better and more beautiful, and that something is beyond.

Some one has said that the enchantment of distance has been compared to that of the far-away echo of the song, which has for the ear a charm more potent than the song itself. We have all felt this fascination. The child dreams of far-away isles and lands of entrancing beauty, and the man fancies that Arcadias and Utopias await him in the distance if he can only reach them. However beautiful may be the sights and scenes around him,

they pale before those far-away visions conjured up by his imagination. An indifference to the near and adoration of the remote seems to be almost universal, and yet, after traveling the world over, one is apt to find the best, the most beautiful and precious things are right at home.

R. E. Sir John Banks is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

TENNESSEE—1905.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Lebanon, May 25th, with R. E. Sir Archibald Nevin Sloan, Grand Commander, presiding; and E. Sir John Berry Garrett, at the Grand Recorder's desk. All the other Grand Officers were in their places and the attendance was good.

The address of the Grand Commander though short is business and contains lots of good sense and wisdom, as the following excerpt will show:

A true Templar cannot and will not associate with evil in any form. I admit that many who have assumed the vows and passed through our ceremonials continually bring reproach upon the name of Him under whose banner they are enlisted, but it is not the fault of the lessons Templarism inculcates. The fault at the door of the Order is that we do not exercise such discipline as will elevate the moral stamina and drive un-Christian men out of a Christian order. Better still, we should set a watch at the door of our Commanderies that will admit none but those who desire entrance because of their great love for the Master, and a sincere desire to further the true cause of morality in the world. The man addicted to profanity, intemperance, vulgarity, licentiousness, deception, has no business in any branch of Masonry, and especially in the Order of Christian Knighthood.

I find the overhanging danger to all our Commanderies is a desire to secure members, when in fact numerical strength does not constitute a strong Commandery. Do not make Templarism too common. Seek only those whose well-earned Christian character assures us will make valiant and magnanimous Knights. We are members of an order that was founded in perilous time—when physical endurance and manly courage were the great requirements—but for ages our swords have not been drawn for the shedding of blood; we equip ourselves with this instrument of war and dedicate it to the most sacred purposes; but the true Templar fights the battle of life rather with the sword of the Spirit, not suspended from tinselled belt, but engraven upon the innermost recesses of the Christian heart, ever remembering that "He that conquereth himself is greater than he that taketh a city."

I have outlined these characteristics of a true Templar at the beginning of these proceedings that we may not lose sight of them in our deliberations on this our Forty-third Annual Conclave.

He aims rather high for his game in proposing to eliminate from the Order all who "associate with evil in any form" and if his rule obtained the 150,000 Templars in the world would dwindle to a body so insignificant as to be invisible to the unaided eyes. While we are a great stickler for a high grade of morality in the membership of the Order, we are not expecting its ranks to be filled with little one horse angels. As we remarked, in a former report, Josh Billings said that "Man is made of dirt and smells of the material" and the rule still obtains. The only perfect people on earth will be found in the "Holiness contingent" and their perfection

is of so uncertain a character that it "won't wash." No doubt there are lots of bad people in the Templar Order, as there are in the Church and everywhere else, except in Heaven, and if we get rid of what we have the remnant will be as lonesome as a borrowed pup.

He declined to allow one of his Subordinates to parade with the "Arabs," although the other Masonic Bodies of the place, "were in it." This sort of narrowness makes us tired. Any Institution that cannot fraternize with the Shriners, or will not, for fear of being contaminated, or hurt in some way, had better hand in its checks and quit. We beg to remind our Brother Sloan, that we belong to the Shrine, have partaken of camel's milk, taken a ride on that beautiful beast, crossed the hot sand of the desert of Sarah Ann, and done several other things, none or all of which have disturbed or lowered our high standard of morality. No doubt there are a few "Cads" among them, but they are in a frightful minority, and no one need hesitate to invite the average Shriner to call and take tea with the family. In view of all these premises, we think our brother should have allowed the boys to march together. We would. The address, as a whole, is an elegant paper.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition. Cash in treasury, \$2,894.04. Total membership, 1,091, a gain of 54.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the work, as usual, of our distinguished friend and Brother Henry J. Ingersoll, who, while a little "off color" in some things, yet writes an excellent report. It covers near a hundred pages and digests the doings of most of the Templar Grands in an instructive and entertaining manner, Mississippi at Jackson, getting *ONE* page. Our brother treats us as well as he can in so short a space, except that he intimates that this writer is an elderly person, and suggests to Fred that he ought to let up on me, etc., all of which is the veriest "Bosh" and Henry knows it. We copy:

Frazer Frederic Speed is still scrapping with the military despotism of the Grand Encampment. We wish him joy and success.

And here comes again the irrepressible Enoch George, surnamed De Lap, praying to live on earth, as the best place he knows, bad as it is, a good while yet, and to be delivered from Venus and Mercury and Jupiter as too hot for pleasant residence, even for a Mississippian, and from Mars as too cold, and the Asteroids as too small for so big a man to stand on.

He is begging, too, for something to be done to Red Cross Ritual—almost any old thing in preference to the present revised ritual, which he dislikes even more than the revised edition of the Bible.

He says he was incited by "Fred" to write this prologue, which "is not much, but enough, such as it is, and good enough too, what there is of it, and if Fred don't like it he can write one himself." But Fred sent this to the "printery," and that's how it got out.

In describing himself as the "prototype" of old Thersites, De Lap has made confession to his identity. Thus antedating the Trojan War, he outranks in age the Wandering Jew, and vies with Melchizedek, the ancient of days.

He's too old to be criticised by the boys of the Guild, and even "Fred" ought to get ashamed of his frivolities and let the old man alone.

But Fred does better. He comes again, by request, at the Grand Encampment, in the Correspondence report of its doings, and says some things about autocratic methods and spirit that ought to be said by some one, and which Enoch George is, forsooth, afraid to say eh?

Possibly some day, in response to the continued blows of Mississippi and other Grand Commanderies, home rule may come to be recognized as one of the essential elements in any American system of government.

He has a pleasant word for our indomitable Frank Burkitt, and intimates that his Dispensations were unlawful, which is also bosh. He probably has this subject in mind while writing his "Conclusion," a part of which we copy:

Many think it venial to defy the law in what they think a good cause. They do evil that good may follow. With them the end justifies the means, and the result of the Jesuit faith is the Jesuit practice in all fields.

The contempt of law leads one man to steal a chicken, another an election; one to burn a barn, another a negro; one to kill a policeman on duty, another a deer out of season; one to rob his neighbor by force on the highway; another through schedules on the railway; one to lend all the National Bank's capital to a single person, another to invest trust funds in shady stocks; one to run a moonshine distillery in the rugged mountains; another a gambling den in the "Tenderloin;" one Commander to neglect any sworn duty for convenience, another to dispense with statutory time of advancement "for the good of the Order."

Every one of these offenses, whether felonious or venial, civil or Masonic, is a breach of the law; and in America, of all countries, that is least pardonable, in theory at least, for the people make the law and can unmake it.

The law is the American Sovereign, and every member of society, high or low, rich or poor, officer or private, judge or juror, sheriff or citizen, must obey it. There is no other security for social order and happiness. There is no other safety for our Order and its members; and above all, must the officers obey the law, otherwise we have tyranny or anarchy.

Good intention may palliate, but it cannot excuse, the offense. Officers are in a peculiar sense, servants of the law—they must not become its masters. No one must be above it, for "of Law there can be no less acknowledged than that her seat is in the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world. All things in Heaven and Earth do her homage, the least as feeling her care, the greatest as not exempt from her power."

Grateful to our fellow citizens of the capital city of our state for the recent recognition of the merits of one of our Past Grand Commanders and keen appreciation of his capacity to serve them and the law, in their present needs, and eagerly wishing and praying for the increased prosperity and usefulness of our Order in Tennessee and everywhere.

His language is elegant, his diction faultless and so on, but what is the use of making so much ado about nothing? However, Henry seems to like it and we are content to let him enjoy himself.

R. E. Sir Jacob C. Smith is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

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TEXAS—1905.

The Fifty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Beaumont, May 10th. There were present: R. E. Sir Edwin Chamberlain, Grand Commander; E. Sir J. C. Kidd, Grand Recorder; all the balance of the

staff, except Grand Treasurer and Grand Sword Bearer; eight Past Grand Commanders, a batch of Grand Representatives, not including ours, a multitude of Past Commanders and Delegates from twenty-six Subordinate Commanderies.

The opening was preceded by a welcoming address and response, in which the word "hospitality" does not appear. Both speeches were above the average along this line which we are glad to note.

The Grand Commander's address is a business paper, well written, but devoid of special interest to outsiders. He reports that peace and a fair measure of prosperity prevail. Made quite a number of visitations to his Subordinates, and had a good time on each occasion. He also reported the Triennial trip to San Francisco. Issued eight dispensations to ballot on the jump, remarking, en passant, that he tried to go slow along here, the need of which is not apparent to this writer. He granted two dispensations for new Commanderies, one at Bonham and the other at Pittsburg. He made several decisions, but none of them of importance.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Order prosperous. Treasury balance to the good, \$5,184.06, including the "Triennial Fund." Total membership, 3,204, a gain of 339, or 11 per cent.

CORRESPONDENCE

This is a document of only forty-eight pages and is the work of Grand Recorder Kidd, in which he digests briefly, the minutes of most of the Templar family of Grands. Of course Brother Kidd's report is a good one, as that is the sort he gets up. His attention to our doings at Greenville and Jackson, is full and flattering, the latter because he devotes nearly three pages out of the forty-eight pages to us, most of it to our report. We quote:

He rather inclined to attribute the hospitality extended in welcoming addresses to a love for the "loaves and fishes" brought by the visitors.

We would much regret having to think that way. The Templar who goes to an Annual Conclave solely for his "per diem and mileage," and the hope also of a free lunch, is a poor specimen of manhood, and one who views a welcoming address through the items on his hotel bill cannot have much of the "milk of human kindness" in his own make-up.

The hospitality that meets you at a train with a smiling countenance, a warm hand clasp, a hearty, cordial readiness to make you feel as one of them, is vastly more enjoyable than if met with a "Good morning; here's a meal ticket, good for two days, and the hotel has orders to charge your sleeping to my account."

Sir Knight De Lap uses the term "Sky Pilot" quite frequently in referring to ministers of the Gospel. This designation would sound appropriate in a seaman's bethel or among seafaring men, or even in the slang of the frontiersman, but used in a state with no more salt water than the Mississippi Sound, it almost makes one think it is used for the purpose of casting a slur on the cloth.

Did our brother ever read the book entitled "The Sky Pilot," by Ralph Connor? If not, we suggest that it will make him feel better if he does read it, and also all the other productions of this splendid writer. The term, or title is not used as in antagonism to the cloth. There is only one who holds our respect and regard to a higher degree than the humble, faithful,

unselfish and duly accredited Ambassador of the Master, and that is The Master Himself.

It is proper for us to remark that we are not accepting meal tickets or gratuitous entertainment, when we attend the meetings of the Grand Bodies, preferring to pay hotel prices to stopping at private houses free, although we are always accompanied by our wife and daughter. We copy his

"CONCLUSION"

with a heart full of sadness at the bereavement of the Grand Commandery of Texas, in the death of Bro. Rounsavall:

Our report for this year has been prepared under sorrowful conditions as well as shortness of time.

In July, 1904, Sir R. O. Rounsavall, the junior member of the committee, and one who always faithfully and promptly discharged every duty imposed upon him, was summoned to answer "Roll Call" upon the plains of the "beyond." Our senior member from stress of much work, being largely interested in the labors of the Grand Lodge, and Secretary of the Episcopal Diocese, as well as a working member of the vestry of his church, and by reason of "age and its often infirmities," not able to write during the night time, was prevented from preparing his report prior to the Grand Conclave. On the morning of April 23, while dressing for the day, he was stricken by paralysis and laid on his bed. As yet his good right arm is useless. The present committee was appointed by the Grand Commander and we have delayed the issuance of our proceedings with the hope of having a report prepared. At the last moment the senior of the new committee had to report that sickness prevented review of even the proceedings sent him and so such as we have we give unto you. While it may be neither as "silver or gold," we trust it may prove to be "current" and "pass."

R. E. Sir Thomas F. Harwood is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, Brother Elgin, continued.

VERMONT—1905.

The Sixty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Burlington, June 13th, with R. E. Sir William H. Kingsley, Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir Henry H. Ross, Grand Recorder. All the Grand Officers were in their places. Twenty Grand Representatives, not including ours, were also present, together with sundry and divers Past Grand Commanders and Representatives from 12 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a brief resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of special interest to outsiders, except the fact that he allowed no balloting inside of statutory time, which is away off from the usual custom. He says, in this connection, that the matter was forcibly called to his attention, by our good Brother Perkins and, also, by others at the Triennial. We are sorry he did not go into the particulars and state the reasons assigned for his failure to do this very common and, in our opinion, very innocent and proper recreation.

He seems to have had a good time at San Francisco, coupled with the pleasure of hobnobbing with a real, live Earl, all of which was right, proper and we are glad.

Proper and loving tribute is paid to the memory and worth of the knightly dead. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. A good head and a pleasant face.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of special interest. Grand Treasury contained a balance, to the good of \$1,122.61. Total membership, 2,082, a gain of 30. The Order in that bailiwick seems to be in a prosperous condition.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the center dish in this intellectual feast, and was the work of our old time friend and Brother Perkins, not Levi, but "Marsh O." Marsh O., is an old offender at this business and gets up a good report. The present one digests the proceedings of nearly all the Templar governing bodies and is replete with wisdom and knowledge, original and copied. Mississippi at Jackson, gets three full pages of polite and fraternal attention. He copies liberally, but without particular comment, from Grand Commander Burkitt's address, the report of the committee thereon, that of the Law Committee on Fred's fulminations in regard to the Grand Encampment, pays some attention to our report and then drops us. He says of our report, that it is characteristic, but is silent as to whether he admires our style, or not, which is not the way we like it. Take your shillalah and hit any obnoxious head that bobs up in your presence, and let it go at that.

As our city is surrounded with a shot gun quarantine, and the yellow plague is gradually spreading over all our Southland, we do not feel like extending our remarks at this time, and will close with a God bless you, for all and each of our Vermont brethren.

R. E. Sir Charles A. Calderwood is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

VIRGINIA—1904.

Virginia. The mother of statesmen, the birthplace of Washington and late, the home of Robert E. Lee. The Eighty-second Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery was held in the city of Richmond, November 10th, with R. E. Sir James Wilson Bryant, Grand Commander, presiding, and R. E. Sir James Braxton Blanks, Grand Recorder. The attendance was large and the interest pronounced.

The address of the Right Eminent is a business document, well written, but in which we find nothing of interest outside of that Jurisdiction, except that the Order is in a prosperous and healthy condition. His opening reminds his hearers of the gratitude and obligation they owe the "Giver of all good" for His manifold mercies to and His watchful care over them during the year then closing, something that we ought never to forget but which we are exceedingly prone to forget. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever."

Courteous and loving tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, both of his own and other Jurisdictions.

He granted but few Dispensations and all these within the law and for good and sufficient reasons. None of the Grand Officers of Virginia were in attendance, in person, at the session of the Grand Encampment.

The proceedings were of local interest only. Total membership, 2,081, a gain of 147. The Grand Treasurer reports a cash balance on hand, general fund, of \$816.70, and in the Triennial Fund a balance of \$601.70.

Much space is occupied by reports of the Inspectors of the different Subordinate Commanderies. There is, much to our regret, no report on Correspondence. Just why, we do not know.

R. E. Frank Ward Cunningham is Grand Commander; R. E. James Braxton Blanks, Grand Recorder and R. E. James E. Alexander is Correspondent. (Kindly let us have a good, long report, Brother Alexander).

WASHINGTON—1905.

The Eighteenth Annual Conclave was held in the City of Bellingham, June 21st. There were present: R. E. Sir Edwin W. Craven, Grand Commander; E. Sir Yancey Blalock, Grand Recorder; all the other members of the staff, 8 Past Grand Commanders, and Representatives from 10 out of the 11 Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a business paper, from start to finish, but it is confined to local matters, almost exclusively. Proper tribute is paid to the knightly dead of the Order universal. He granted the usual batch of dispensations and for the usual purposes. He made but one decision and that unimportant. We excerpt from his conclusion:

I am more and more impressed that having seen to it that our own lives exemplify the life and teaching of our Savior, we should be watchful that the portals of our Order are guarded against the admission of unworthy members. Too many, indeed, are admitted, whose only purpose is to receive the dignity and the standing which the Commandery bestows, but the trend of whose lives is in no wise consistent with Christian beliefs, who care little for the finer qualities of gentility and Christianity, and whom we would be loth to invite to our home circles.

No other secular institution professes to be governed by such exalted ideals as this. No other Order in our several communities is so capable of being the nucleus for fostering and preserving the state, the home, the schools, and the church, as that of Templarism.—The citizens of the community expect more dignity, more probity and of intelligence of the Knight Templar than of other men, and it is for each of us to answer whether we have measured up to that expectation; whether we have received the benefits of the honor which acceptance into this order has conferred upon us, and have in return contributed our share to its strength and efficiency, by improved and exemplary lives.

Proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance to the good, \$2,651.75. Total membership, 1,057, a net gain of 115.

CORRESPONDENCE.

One hundred and twenty-nine pages of the pamphlet contain the fourteenth annual report of our good friend and brother, R. E. Sir Yancey M. Blalock, Grand Recorder; and it is a very full and complete review of the

minutes of nearly all the Templar family of Grands, ours, Jackson, coming in for polite and courteous attention.

Our brother pays but little attention to any thing except statistics and decisions, which is a line of conduct that does not meet our approval. These two are all right and important and should never be omitted, but "There are others" that he might touch upon with profit to his readers, we think. He departs, somewhat, from his usual custom, however, when he reaches our pamphlet, as he copies our review of the Grand Encampment entire, and Fred's tail to it, besides, for which honor we are obliged. We are sorry, however, that he does not agree to or dissent from any of the deliverances contained in those two literary gems and monuments of sense.

His Conclusion is short, but comprehensive. Here it is:

We would like very much to give our Fraters the benefit of many of the nice things said in the various proceedings, but time and space prevent and we feel that we have given what was the best so far as information goes, as well as the laws enacted, and hope it will satisfy you, although it is not so to us.

We suggest to Brother Yancey that he leave out some of those tiresome decisions next year and throw in a good deal of Blalock.

R. E. Sir Cornelius Driscoll is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

WEST VIRGINIA—1905.

The Thirty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of Fairmont, May 10th, with R. E. Sir Sam N. Myers, presiding; E. Sir Francis E. Nichols, Grand Recorder. All the official staff were present, save one, Grand Treasurer, 11 Past Grand Commanders, and Representatives of 15 Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is rather voluminous, but contains nothing of a startling or blood-curdling character. Affectionate reference is had to the memory and worthy of the knightly dead of his own and sister jurisdictions, among them the Grand Treasurer, Sir Delos White Emmons.

He issued quite a number of Dispensations, one of them for a new Commandery, but none for balloting on the jump, which is remarkable, being so much out of the usual course. He appointed a long list of those ornamental, if not useful, appendages known as Grand Representatives, our good Brother Bodenhamer getting the plum for this bailiwick.

His decisions were correct, one being that distance exceeding forty miles excuses a member from answering a summons, which can only be, properly, done in person. "A letter can convey a reason or excuse why a summons is not answered, but it cannot serve as an answer per se."

Proceedings were devoid of general interest. The Order is in good shape. Treasury balance to the good, \$1,685.17. Total membership, 2, 179, a gain of 219.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the perfect ashlar of our good friend and brother, Van Winkle, covers 185 pages, reviews the transaction of nearly, if not all, of the Templar legislative bodies of the world and is the ninth offense by the same author. Like the other eight, this is a good one. His attention to our doings at Jackson is very full, fraternal and complete. He quotes literally from the report on law and endorses its findings. He commends the report of Fred on the Grand Encampment, which will please that individual. His attention to our report is very full and pleasant and we are obliged. He has this to say of our Representative near the Grand East of West Virginia:

"Sir Knight Edwin O. Bower is an industrious Representative of Mississippi, near West Virginia, cordial, courteous and alive to all the Templar interest, and moreover represents by his attendance at Annual Conclaves, unfortunately untrue of many." We are glad that one of these bric-a-bracs, and that one ours, earns his salary.

We excerpt his conclusion, at the same time apologizing for the brevity of this notice, which must be credited to the account of Bronze John.

We finish this review with misgivings that it measures up to a standard. We have done the best possible under pressure for time to accomplish this and meet in other directions imperative demands upon our leisure hours.

It is submitted with the hope that it reaches the aim we had—an epitome of occurrences in the several Grand Jurisdictions worthy of reference. Occasional comment is indulged for which we personally assume responsibility, taking the risk of being "called down" by the seasoned writers of Correspondence.

R. E. Sir William J. Rowland is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

— — —

WISCONSIN—1905.

The Forty-seventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Milwaukee, October 10th. There were present: R. E. Charles H. Washburn, Grand Commander; E. Sir William W. Perry, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except two, Sword Bearer and Warder, eight Past Grand Commanders, several other Past Grand Officers, twenty-one Grand Representatives, a multitude of Past Commanders and Representatives from twenty-eight Subordinate Commanderies, out of twenty-nine.

The Grand Commanders's address covers fourteen pages, is well written, but is devoid of special interest to outsiders, and as we are not at all well today, our review of it will be remarkable only for its brevity. He pays the customary tribute to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, of the Templar family. He issued or granted, rather, dispensations for the same old purposes, and refused a couple. He made several decisions, but none of importance to the Order at large. Of course he refers to the "Triennial" at San Francisco, but does it briefly and without gush, which is pleasant.

The proceedings were routine and of no special interest. Grand Re-

corder Perry read an eloquent tribute to the memory and virtues of Past Grand Generalissimo, E. Sir Oliver Libbey, who passed to his reward during the year.

The Order is in a healthy condition. Treasury balance to the good, \$4,785.02. Total membership, 3,596, a gain of 98.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the maiden effort of Brother N. C. Giffin, in which the most of the Templar Grand Bodies are carefully considered, Mississippi for 1904 and 1905, have brief but courteous attention. Our good friend Swain, was unable to prepare the report in 1904, and has, owing to failing health, retired from this field. He has our sincere sympathy and an earnest prayer to God for his restoration to health and usefulness, if it is God's will, if not, that he may have an abundant entrance into the abodes of the blest in Heaven. As a writer of this sort of literature, he was without a superior and the literature of the Order is sadly bereaved in his retirement.

Brother Giffin does very well as an amateur, but it will be hard for him, as it would be for us, to fill William's shoes. Brother Giffin will learn, by observation, if not by experience, that "Sir Brother," applied to a Templar, is bad form and won't wash. Two titles attached to one small man like the undersigned, is piling it on too heavy.

The above remarks were brought out by the following excerpt from his review of our doings at Greenville: "Sir Brother De Lap will probably not have another opportunity to read one of Brother Swain's spicy reports, as he has undoubtedly written his last one." Brother Giffin devotes less than two pages to our doings at Greenville and Jackson, but what he says is pleasant and fraternal, and we are obliged. We copy his Conclusion:

We have completed the task assigned us, not, however, in a very satisfactory manner to ourselves. It has been labor mingled with pleasure. It certainly is very interesting to review the Proceedings of the various Jurisdictions. It, however, requires much time and sometimes a little patience. We have refrained, as a rule, from criticising the Proceedings of any of the Jurisdictions which we have reviewed. We have come across some criticisms that seemed to be very much out of place and in which the critic laid himself open to more severe criticism than those whom he criticised. We trust that if this, our first report has not much merit, it will do no harm. We have no doubt that those Correspondents who have been in the habit of reading and enjoying Sir Knight Swain's reports will be disappointed, but they will no doubt survive.

R. E. Sir Merton Herrick is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

WYOMING—1904-1905.

The Sixteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Cheyenne, April 13th, with R. E. Sir Fennimore, Chatterton, Grand Commander, presiding; and R. E. Sir Adrian J. Parshall, Grand Recorder. Five Subordinate Com-

manderies were represented and there were several Past Grand Commanders and a lot of Grand Representatives on hand.

The Grand Commander's address was made extempore and as they had no stenographer it was not taken down and does not appear in the proceedings. This is a new departure with a venegeance, being the first instance on record, that has come under our eagle eye. Things must have been abnormally quiet, in that bailiwick, or the Right Eminent must be a remarkable man in order to retain in his memory the salient events of his administration, to enable him to put the Grand Body in possession of what it ought to know. It is possible, also, that he is one of those people who are always loaded with "Hot Air," and took the opportunity to open the valve and let it escape. Our Fred is that way, as is also, our friend, Sisson and they, generally, carry their audience with them, except where the load is too heavy, when some brother moves "That they have leave to print their remarks in the 'Record.'" However, as his speech is not published we escape the trouble of examining it, which is refreshing this hot weather.

The proceedings were of the usual routine grade and devoid of special interest.

The Eighteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Rawlins, April 12th, with R. E. Sir Louis Kirk in the Grand East and Brother Parshall at the Recorder's desk. The attendance was about the same as at the former session.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short resume of the events of a quiet but creditable administration, in which we find nothing of special interest to outsiders. Owing to the illness of our good Brother Baird and the death of Deputy Grand Commander Jesse Knight, of the Correspondence Committee, he appointed the Grand Recorder to do the work, and he did it well. We beg to express our sympathy with the bereaved and to express the hope that our good Brother Baird is fully recovered.

Portraits of Grand Commanders Chatterton and Kirk adorn the pamphlet. The former looks like a preacher and, if he is one, that will account for that spontaneous outbreak, instead of a written address.

The proceedings were devoid of general interest. Treasury balance to the good, \$653.88. They spent no ducats at San Francisco. Total membership, 459, a gain of 17. Grand Recorder Parshall, submitted a brief, but really good report on

CORRESPONDENCE

in which the transactions of most of the Templar legislatures of the world, including Mississippi for 1904. Brother Parshall gets up a report that would do credit to a veteran of the corps. We copy his opening chorus:

We have been persuaded to undertake the work of preparing the Report on Correspondence of the year just passed. We do so with many misgivings, and shall only attempt to place before the members of this Grand Commandery, for whom the review is chiefly intended, such matter as we think will be of interest to those who desire to keep informed of what is transpiring in the Templar world.

The illness of our regular Correspondent and the general expression of our members that some one should make the sacrifice, is the only excuse we have to offer for so poor a substitute for the real article which has been furnished in former years by Brothers Baird and Knight.

To the members of the Grand Commandery we make no apologies because they knew about what to expect. We will, however, ask the critics of sister jurisdictions to handle us gently, promising them something better in the future—from the pen of some other Sir Knight.

He devotes two pages to our minutes and honors us with some pleasant words and by copious extracts from our report, for all of which we are grateful. His report is minus a "Conclusion," which is wrong. Baboons have no tail. We welcome him, most cordially, to membership in the family of mutuals, at the same time dropping a tear to the memory and merit of his predecessors, both of whom we hope to meet in that "upper and better country."

R. E. Sir George C. Rafter is Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Adrian J. Parshall, Grand Recorder and Correspondent.

CONCLUSION.

The work assigned us has been completed, in the main, but as there are a number of important jurisdictions that are behind in their appearance, it is likely that we shall add something to the work already done. It is not usual to put on the tail until the rest of the body is completed, but in this case, having nothing else to do right now, we are building the caudal appendage with a view of attaching it at the proper time. Boccacio's Peter was opposed to the addition of a tail, but, as remarked in a former report, we think he was wrong. Besides we are not partial to bob-tailed dogs, or cats.

The presence of the Yellow Scourge in our city has had a tendency to somewhat obscure the scintillations of fun and frolic peculiar to some of our reports, but we have done the best we could to make it interesting to those of you who have the sense and judgment to read it and hope we have, in some slight degree, succeeded.

The Order seems to be in a healthy and prosperous condition, with nothing of an exciting or belligerent character disturbing its serenity. Belden, of Arizona, has retired into his hole and pulled the hole in after him and no one else had the temerity to knock the chip off the shoulder of your committee. If the Templar host continues to grow as rapidly as it has in recent years, it won't be long before there will be enough of us for Cornelius, of Montana, to select a corporal's guard from! If he took the entire

lay out and started for Palestine and after the scalp of the "Unspeakable Turk," he would be in a bad fix as they would be more dangerous to themselves than to the Moslems. The great mass of them are brave enough to tackle a wind-mill, a la Don Quixote, but they lack discipline and the knowledge of how to use their "trusty claymores." We are with Cornelius in his hatred of the Turks, and would be glad to see "The Sick Man of Europe" hand in his checks, and the signs of the times just now, indicate that if he doesn't take water he will get into deep water and possibly drown.

There is not much in this epilogue, except words, but it will have to do. With the same old love and affection for each one of you and the same lively interest in the prosperity and well being of the Order of the Temple that has always actuated us, we beg to remain,

Courteously yours,

E. G. DELAP,
Reporter.

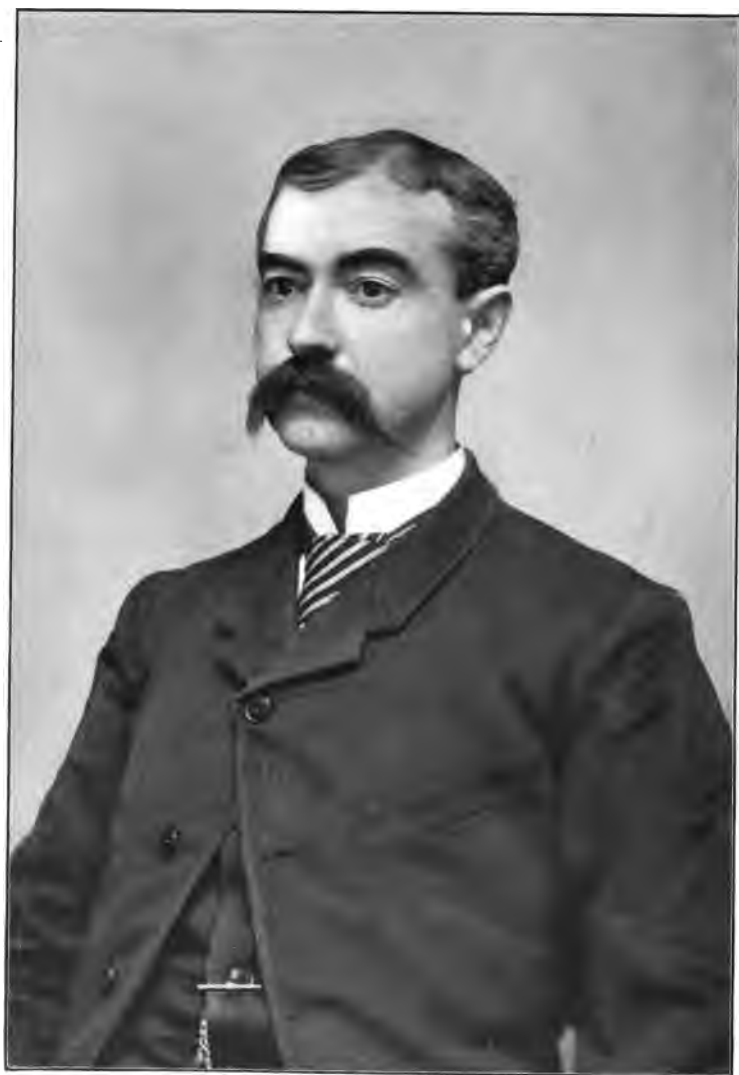
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Geo. C. Myers

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENT

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDEY,

KNIO ITS TEMPLAR,

IN THE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,

HELD AT

Natchez, February 23, 1897

PRINTED BY
J. M. B. B. B.



W. C. Myers

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FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR,

IN THE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,

HELD AT

Natchez, February 22, 1907.

Grand Officers 1907-08.

GRAND COMMANDER	- - - -	GEORGE C. MYERS, Jackson.
DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER	-	GEORGE C. HOSKINS, Brookhaven.
GRAND GENERALISSIMO	- -	GARLAND D. BROWN, Water Valley.
GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL	- -	JOHN S. BROOKS, Robinsonville.
SENIOR GRAND WARDEN	-	E. ERNEST CLEMENT, Ocean Springs.
JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN	- -	EDWIN J. MARTIN, Meridian.
GRAND PRELATE	- - - -	JOHN A. B. JONES, Magnolia.
GRAND TREASURER	- - - -	GUS J. BAHIN, Natchez.
GRAND RECORDER	- - - -	FREDERIC SPEED, Vicksburg.
GRAND STANDARD BEARER	- -	ROBERT A. STIGLER, Lexington.
GRAND SWORD BEARER	- -	JOSEPH J. BROOKS, Benoit.
GRAND WARDER	- - - -	LOUIS A. BENOIST, Natchez.

Committees:

Templar Law: Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Chairman, Meridian; William A. Bodenhamer, P.E.C., Okolona; DeB. Waddell, P.G.C., Meridian.

Fraternal Correspondence: Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C., Natchez.

The Forty-Eighth Annual Conclave will be held at Hattiesburg, on Friday, February 14th, 1908.

Grand Commandery of Mississippi.

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN MISSISSIPPI; convened in its Forty-Seventh Annual Conclave in the Asylum of Rosalie Commandery, in the City of Natchez, on Friday, February 22, 1907, at 10 o'clock A. M., there being present :

GRAND OFFICERS.

Right Eminent Sir DEB. WADDELL.....Grand Commander.
Very Eminent Sir GEORGE C. MYERS.....Deputy Grand Commander.
Eminent Sir JAMES KNOX MOORE.....as Grand Generalissimo.
Eminent Sir GEORGE C. HOSKINS.....Grand Captain General.
Eminent Sir GARLAND D. BROWN.....Grand Senior Warden.
Eminent Sir JOHN S. BROOKS.....Grand Junior Warden.
Eminent Sir JOSEPH J. BROOKS.....Grand Prelate.
Eminent Sir GUS J. BAHIN.....Grand Treasurer.
Right Eminent Sir FREDERIC SPEED.....Grand Recorder.
Eminent Sir E. ERNEST CLEMENT.....Grand Standard Bearer.
Eminent Sir EDWIN J. MARTIN.....Grand Sword Bearer.
Eminent Sir ZEBULON P. JONES.....Grand Sentinel.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. E. ENOCH GEORGE DELAP.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. WILLIAM G. BENBROOK.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. WILLIAM A. BODENHAMER.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JAMES C. FRENCH.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN S. COBB.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN A. B. JONES.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. ROBERT HIRAM HENRY.....Past Grand Commander.
R. E. JOHN FOGGO DIXON.....Past Grand Commander.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

TEMPLAR LAW—William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.; Oliver Lee McKay, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

CONNECTICUT.....	Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....	Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.
GEORGIA	James C. French, P.G.C.
ILLINOIS	James Knox Moore, P.E.C.
INDIANA.....	Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.
IOWA.....	Frederic Speed, P.G.C.
KANSAS.....	William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
LOUISIANA.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND.....	John S. Cobb, P.G.C.
MISSOURI.....	M. Leith Stigler, P.E.C.
MONTANA.....	DeB. Waddell, G.C.
NEBRASKA.....	Emmet N. Thomas, P.E.C.
NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	Benjamin V. White, P.E.C.
NEW JERSEY.....	E. Ernest Clement, P.E.C.
NEW MEXICO.....	Thomas B. Franklin, P.E.C.
NEW YORK.....	Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
OHIO.....	John A. B. Jones, P.G.C.
OREGON.....	George C. Myers, D.G.C.
TEXAS.....	Gus J. Bahin, H.P.G.C.
VIRGINIA.....	William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
WEST VIRGINIA.....	William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.
WISCONSIN.....	John A. Dicks, P.E.C.

Also present, the representatives of nineteen Commanderies and a large number of visiting Templars.

OPENING.

The Grand Commandery was opened by the Grand Commander in AMPLE FORM, the Grand Prelate leading in the devotions.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights James F. Hill, Walter M. Conner and Lonnie P. Kees as a Committee on Credentials, who presently submitted a report as follows: which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, The Grand Commandery:

The Committee on Credentials courteously beg leave to report that they find the following Officers, Representatives of Commanderies and Past Eminent Commanders present and entitled to seats in the Grand Commandery:

GRAND OFFICERS.

DeB. Waddell, Grand Commander.
 George C. Myers, Deputy Grand Commander.
 George C. Hoskins, Grand Captain General.
 Garland D. Brown, Senior Grand Warden.

John S. Brooks, Junior Grand Warden.
Joseph J. Brooks, Grand Prelate.
Gus J. Bahin, Grand Treasurer.
Frederic Speed, Grand Recorder.
E. Ernest Clement, Grand Standard Bearer.
Edwin J. Martin, Grand Sword Bearer.
William C. Hathcox, Grand Sentinel.

COMMITTEES.

TEMPLAR LAW—William A. Bodenhamer.
CORRESPONDENCE—Enoch George DeLap.

REPRESENTATIVES.

ABERDEEN—W. H. Clifton, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
COAHOMA—John S. Brooks, Eminent Commander. J. H. Johnson,
proxy for Generalissimo.
CYRENE—Pierce A Broach, Eminent Commander.
DELTA—Emmet N. Thomas, Eminent Commander.
DEMOLAY—D. S. McClanahan, Proxy for Eminent Commander. T. B.
Franklin, Captain General.
EDWARDS—Thomas P. Martin, Representative.
GREENWOOD—Not Represented.
HATTIESBURG—Edward Earl Connor, Representative.
HOLLY SPRINGS—E. Clyde Wright, Representative.
IVANHOE—T. M. Davis, Proxy for Eminent Commander. John S. Cobb,
Captain General.
LEXINGTON—W. Lonnie Jordon, Eminent Commander.
MACON—Not Represented.
MAGNOLIA—James Knox Moore, Representative.
MISSISSIPPI—George B. Power, Proxy for Eminent Commander.
ROSALIE—William G. Benbrook, Eminent Commander. Edward M.
Ranke, Generalissimo. Seaborn McDowell, Captain General.
MARY SAVERY—R. T. Adams, Representative.
ST. CYR—Garland D. Brown, Representative.
ST. ELMO—L. P. Kees, Representative.
THE COAST—Walton G. Grayson, Eminent Commander.
WEST POINT—T. M. Powers, Eminent Commander.
YAZOO—William M. Moore, Representative.

PAST GRAND COMMANDERS.

William G. Benbrook, John A. B. Jones, John S. Cobb, William A.
Bodenhamer, Robert Hiram Henry, E. George DeLap, James C. French,
John Foggo Dixon, Gus J. Bahin (Honorary).

PAST EMINENT COMMANDERS.

Benjamin V. White, Cyrene; C. E. Romberger, St. Cyr; J. J.
White, Mississippi; Louis A. Benoist, Rosalie; William A. Stanton,

Magnolia; Andrew J. Peck, Cyrene; J. W. Hagenmeyer, Cyrene; M. L. Stigler, Yazoo.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

CONNECTICUT—Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.
GEORGIA—James C. French, P.G.C.
ILLINOIS—James Knox Moore, P.E.C
INDIANA—Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.
IOWA—Frederic Speed, P.G.C.
KANSAS—William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
LOUISIANA—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—John S. Cobb, P.G.C.
MISSOURI—M. Leith Steigler, P.E.C.
MONTANA—DeB. Waddell, G.C.
NEBRASKA—Emmet N. Thomas, P.E.C.
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Benjamin V. White, P.E.C.
NEW JERSEY—E. Ernest Clement, P.E.C.
NEW MEXICO—Thomas B. Franklin, P.E.C.
NEW YORK—Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.
OHIO—John A. B. Jones, P.G.C.
OREGON—George C. Myers, D.G.C.
TEXAS—Gus J. Bahin, H.P.G.C.
VIRGINIA—William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.
WEST VIRGINIA—William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C.
WISCONSIN—John A. Dicks, P.E.C.

Courteously submitted,

JAMES F. HILL,
WALTER M. CONNER,
L. P. KEES,

Committee.

DEVOTIONAL OFFICE.

The lines were then formed and the Grand Commandery proceeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, where the full devotional office was said, led by the Grand Prelate and assisted by a volunteer choir of ladies and gentlemen who sang the anthems and hymns.

At the conclusion of the Devotional Office the Grand Prelate preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion.

The sermon ended, the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander made an eloquent and touching appeal to the Knights present for assistance to the Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum, to which they responded by placing on the altar the sum of sixty-eight dollars and sixty cents.

The lines were again formed and the Grand Commandery returned to the Asylum and was adjourned until half-past two o'clock this afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half-past two o'clock, the Grand Commandery resumed its Conclave, the officers and members being present as at the morning session.

ADDRESS.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander then addressed the Grand Commandery as follows :

To the Grand Officers and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Mississippi:

Once more, through the goodness of the Great Father, we are permitted to meet in our Annual Conclave ; and when I look around among the faces before me and see so few of those missing who were with us last year, and think of the harvest that death hath reaped in other fields, it is with a truly grateful heart that I greet you my fellow Knights and welcome you to this our forty-seventh anniversary.

Man is prone to magnify his ills and minimize his blessings and though Christian Knights, we are still men, with the same weaknesses that characterize all, I doubt not that many before me have many complaints about the year that is passed.

Things might have been better, would have been better, we think, if certain things had not have happened, if our desires and expectations had have been gratified.

If we would think of the position we occupy in this great world and life as men and soldiers of Jesus Christ, and how poorly, even at the best, we have performed the duties of that position, we will see clearly that we have deserved very few of the many blessings that we have enjoyed.

And not only this when we look out upon the great world around us—North, East, South and West, and compare our condition with many of those sections, we will see that instead of complaints rankling in our breasts, our hearts should be overflowing with loving gratitude to that Divine Being whose protecting arm has shielded us from the calamities that have fallen upon so many others.

The year that has passed has been the most disastrous, in many respects that I have any recollection of. This mysterious nature around us seems to have been in continual commotion—out of harmony.

In nearly every quarter of the globe some convulsion of nature has taken place, bringing death, destruction, suffering to thousands and tens of thousands of our fellow beings.

Through the mercy of God we have been exempt from nearly all these calamities. Meridian is one exception. Last March, a cyclone of terrible force, visited her, creating much destruction and causing many deaths.

But even then, when we look at the time of day it came, and the course it took, we must feel that God's mercy protected us. If it had come an hour sooner and have been a hundred yards deeper into the city, millions of dollars of property and hundreds of lives would have been lost.

Our coast towns also suffered some from tidal waves, but in comparison with the suffering of so many others, their's seem to be slight.

Peace, prosperity and happiness have crowned our days, and we are entering upon another year with the brightest prospects before us.

And this is not only the case with the material condition of our state, but peace, prosperity and happiness reign supreme throughout the jurisdiction of our noble Order.

Your Grand Commander has had little to do beyond sitting and listening to good reports from nearly every quarter.

Not one single report has been made to him of any discontent, dissatisfaction or bickering among the various commanderies of this grand jurisdiction.

No vexed question has arisen which he was called upon to settle; nothing indeed has occurred throughout the jurisdiction that called for discipline.

Your Grand Commander has been encouraged and sustained throughout the year by the knowledge, that he was presiding over a body of loving, loyal and faithful knights.

Would that he could be assured that all the Sir Knights in this jurisdiction were as loyal, loving and faithful to our Great Grand Commander, as they have been to him.

We all love the Order and each other, but is it equally true that we love the Great Captain of our Salvation—He whose soldiers we are?

Freemasonry finds a culmination and completion in this Order of Knighthood that should cause us not only to love and value Freemasonry, but to awaken us to a full sense of its grand realities and the high and glorious position we occupy as Knights Templar.

Here the glorious truths hidden in symbols and mysteries are fully disclosed to us; we are placed in possession of them, made their keepers and defenders.

We have sworn to keep and defend them, and if our oaths are anything more than idle words, they call for, they demand, lives that show in their acts, that we are keeping and defending them.

A Knight Templar is a sworn Christian, a soldier of the cross and should be a true soldier, who would be ashamed to bring disgrace upon his Order or reproach upon His name under whose banner he has enlisted.

It is my earnest desire that all of us may appreciate our position as Knights and live in accordance to the sublime teachings of the Order.

And what I mean by this, is not the goody, goody, sentimentalism that passes for religion, but the manly, upright, holy-walking in the footsteps of the manliest and truest Man that ever lived—the Man Christ Jesus.

It is not by outward show and parade, it is not by glittering uniforms

and waving plumes; it is not by professions of any kind, but alone by manly and true living, expressive of the sublime principles of our Order—Truth, Justice, Mercy, and Love—that we can keep and defend the truths committed to our care.

I feel very deeply on this subject and it grieves me more than I can tell, to know that any Sir Knight fails to appreciate his position as a Knight.

I would beg each and every one of you, my brethren, in love, if it were my last request, to remember the hallowed sacrifice upon Calvary.

I am thankful to say that our Order is still growing, but it would more largely grow, if the various officers of our Commanderies would do their full duty and observe in every particular our full and beautiful ritual.

In general there is too much a disregard of this, and Commanderies are opened and closed with the very shortest forms imaginable; indeed, without any form at all.

This should not be and Commanderies should always be opened in full form unless there is some urgent necessity for something shorter.

The members cannot be expected to feel much interest in attending a meeting of their Commanderies where the Eminent Commander is going merely to declare the Commandery open for the dispatch of business and then hurriedly go through a routine of business and close pretty much in the same way.

Man naturally loves form and ceremony and they are needed to keep up an interest among the members.

Every officer should be in his place and know and be able to tell—not read it out of a book—why he is there and the duties of his station.

This slipshod way of doing things, which has been too generally practiced, is the secret of the want of interest felt by the members in so many of our Commanderies.

All of us know very well that we delight in seeing the degrees conferred impressively.

If we know the ceremonies are to be performed as they can and should be, we are almost certain to be on hand.

Many actually go off to distant cities to see them performed, because they delight to see it thus done.

We, in this jurisdiction, can perform these ceremonies as well and as impressively as they can be done anywhere else in the world and we owe it to ourselves and this glorious Order to which we belong, to perform the duties that devolve upon us as officers of Commanderies.

Some officers, it is true, with this in view, go a little too far, by trying to improve upon the ritual by injecting into it many things of their own composition which have no place there and no right there. It would be most difficult for a body of men to improve upon the ritual; impossible for any one man and none really have the right to try it.

We all alike ought to be true to the Order and render the ritual just as directed.

I would suggest that we can make our ceremonies more impressive; especially in conferring the Knights Templar degree, by appropriate music.

It adds to its beauty and solemnity and has a fine effect upon both members and candidates.

From having tried it, I can intelligently recommend it to all Commanderies, and should be delighted to see it universally adopted.

At this point I would like to call the attention of the Grand Commandery to the existence of a cipher work in our midst that does not conform in every particular, to the work given us by the Grand Encampment.

One word is used, a word which I have heard used in many Commanderies, and always condemned, which converts our glorious Christian Order, into a heathen institution; that word is "AVENGE" in place of the authorized word of our ritual, "AID."

There are several similar inaccuracies in this little book, and its use should be prohibited in our jurisdiction.

It is horrible to think that a Christian Knight should be taught to avenge his brother, when the Master he serves teaches him not to avenge himself.

THE MASONIC WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' HOME.

There is nothing that should appeal so strongly to us Knights Templar Masons, as the cause of the widows and orphans. At last a Home is to be provided for them, and we should do our full duty in the good work. I feel certain that I will not have to plead with you, to show your faith by your works. It is only necessary for me to bring the subject before you. Those who have pledged themselves to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted, can be depended upon to do their full duty, when the cry of little children reaches their ears.

THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

I issued an order on the subject of the Knights of Malta which I trust has been heeded by the Commanderies. It is far more important than it has been regarded in this Jurisdiction; it is an absolute necessity.

Outside of our Jurisdiction we would not be acknowledged as Knights Templar without it, and within our own Jurisdiction we are not Knights Templar without it. All Commanderies which have it not should at once have this degree conferred. My order called for reports from Commanderies, but up to this time I have no recollection of receiving a single report. I take it for granted that the officers of Commanderies, who are generally obedient, have just forgotten to comply with that part of the order.

THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

I issued an order calling for reports to be made to the chairman of the committee, Sir Knight E. J. Martin, on the Triennial Conclave, at Saratoga. I know that the chairman has worked industriously—that he has

done his part, but he can make no arrangements for the entertainment of the Sir Knights, unless he is informed of the number going. All who intend to go should communicate with the committee at once.

In regard to this conclave, I know I am a back number, but I feel an immense amount of pride in having the Grand Commandery of Mississippi properly and decently represented. Some provision should certainly be made for headquarters, and that the headquarters may be sustained in a respectable manner. Your committee is unable to do this unless you furnish it with the necessary funds. As soldiers of Jesus Christ, I do not think that we should have drinks of any kind on tap, but proper light refreshments should be served and our headquarters conducted in such a way as will show to the world assembled there, that Mississippi is there also. I recommend that some action be taken to accomplish this end.

THE CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE.

Your Grand Commander saw fit to take no action in regard to the prescribed so-called Christmas observance, because in his opinion such an observance at such a time is not proper or appropriate. Christmas, Easter and Ascension Days we are bid by the laws of our Order to meet and worship the Great Captain of our salvation and to convert Christmas day, without any statute law, into a day of drinking toasts to each other, does not seem to me right.

This service is appointed to take place at the very hour when we should be engaged in the worship of the sanctuary and it does seem to me far more proper for Christmas Day, to call the Sir Knights together, to kneel at the Manger Cradle of Bethlehem.

I am not by any means a tee-totalist and have no objection to drinking a toast to the Grand Master and our noble women. If this service was appointed for any hour in the afternoon, I would cheerfully join in it, but in the morning of this day we should deviate from our usual course of worshipping ourselves and worship the wonderful *Child* born on this day.

OFFICIAL ACTS.

My official acts have been very few. I have issued three dispensations for the organization of new Commanderies.

One at Grenada under the name of Yalobusha, with Sir Knight W. H. Whitaker, as Eminent Commander; Sir Knight A. H. Bays, as Generalissimo, and Sir Knight Edwin Wright, as Captain General.

One at Newton under the name of Newton Commandery, with Sir Knight J. J. Haralson, as Eminent Commander; Sir Knight J. C. McClinton, as Generalissimo, and Sir Knight Clarence R. Hoye, as Captain General.

And lastly but two weeks ago, one at New Albany under the name of New Albany, with Sir Knight M. F. Rogers, as Eminent Commander; Sir Knight G. B. Mitchell, as Generalissimo, and Sir Knight W. M. Ticer, as Captain General.

I have visited the first two of these Commanderies and witnessed an exhibition of their work.

Yalobusha Commandery has a fine set of officers, far above the average, who render the work very impressively. Indeed I know of no Commandery that does the work better. And they are doing a good work, having already dubbed Knights, with a fair prospect of a large increase.

Newton Commandery has labored under more difficulties. They made a mistake in petitioning me to appoint Dr. J. J. Haralson, a most worthy and capable Knight, but handicaped by being a physician and living in another town. By mutual consent they petitioned me subsequently, to change the first officers appointed; which acting under the authority of Article XII, Section 9, I did, appointing Dr. G. F. Haynes Eminent Commander, C. H. Rew Generalissimo and J. S. Davidson Captain General. These new officers are young, active, capable Knights and have taken hold of the work with a spirit that promises success. On the thirtieth of January I witnessed their work and it was very creditable. I feel confident that they will have a very fine Commandery in a short time. Their field is more limited than Yalobusha but they have dubbed Knights and have several candidates waiting for the orders. I most cheerfully and heartily recommend the granting of a charter to both of these Commanderies.

New Albany Commandery starts out with the brightest prospects, twenty-five or thirty Royal Arch Masons expressing themselves to me in writing, as ready and anxious to unite with them. As New Albany is a growing and promising town, having a wide territory to back it, the Grand Commandery, in my humble opinion, would run no risk in granting them a charter immediately.

I have granted a few dispensations for balloting and conferring degrees out of time and refused some, acting in every case upon what I considered best for the Order. In most of the cases I have been present, but in some I have not.

In this I may have violated the letter, but not the spirit of the law. The powers that be in the Grand Encampment, seem to be imbued with the centralizing ideas so rife in the political world and disposed to limit to a very small and insignificant degree, the authority of Grand Commanderies and Grand Commanders.

OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES.

I issued a circular letter to all the Commanderies in regard to the death—or rather passing into another sphere—of our much loved and revered brother and Past Grand Commander, P. M. Savery. Most of you knew him better than I did and hence it is unnecessary for me to give any extended account of his worth. You all knew him to be a faithful Knight, loving brother and wise and accomplished Mason. We all loved him and all alike mourn his loss. In our gatherings we shall sadly miss his pleasant face and his wise counsels. He was a tower of strength in all our bodies. He was strong in knowledge of the wonderful mysteries of Masonry; strong in wisdom, strong in knightly courtesy, strong in moral principles. His life showed, as all our lives should show, that he had a firm

faith in the truths revealed in God's holy word and childlike trust in the merits of our once crucified, but now risen and exalted Saviour. And we can rest assured that he found consolation in the gloomy hour of dissolution and ineffable joy in the eternal world. The light of his life, reflected from the great Grand Commander, shines upon us to-day, and will, if we permit it, help to lead us into that true and holy living, which will bring us to that glorious reward he has found. The death of such a man, as one of our number, is a benediction to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi. He was an honor to Masonry, carrying its banners nobly through evil and good report and planting them firmly in the strongholds of its enemies.

Through the kindness of Past Grand Commander W. A. Bodenhamer, who loaned me his uniform, I was enabled to take charge of the funeral. After a very touching and appropriate service by his minister, in the church at Baldwin, Past Grand Chaplin N. G. Augustus and myself, read that part of the service appropriate for the church, finishing at the grave, where we laid him to rest.

Sir Knight James Gordon acted as Marshal, J. M. Dickey, as Captain General and Sir Knight Harry Ardern, as Senior Warden.

The active pall-bearers were Sir Knights O. P. Brown, J. A. Thompson, J. M. Davis, N. A. Love, T. W. Walton, W. F. Riley and W. J. Callow. The honorary pall-bearers were Past Grand Commanders O. L. McKay, J. S. Cobb, J. M. Buchanan, E. G. DeLap, W. A. Bodenhamer and Frederic Speed.

IRVIN MILLER.

Sir Knight Irvin Miller, another of our Past Grand officers, has crossed the river to rest on the other side, Sir Knight Irvin Miller, Past Grand Prelate and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, closed his eyes on these earthly scenes to open them again upon the more beautiful scenes of the Paradise of God, on Tuesday morning, the twentieth day of last March. He was an active, zealous and faithful Mason, a true and loving brother. Unless prevented by some good cause he was always present at the meetings of our Grand bodies, in all of which he was beloved and held in high esteem. We shall sadly miss his cheerful and brotherly greeting and his wise counsel, in our deliberations.

The old men upon whom we have been so long leaning are fast passing away, but he and Sir Knight Savery both, before passing away, taught us how to walk as Masons and as Knights and the highest tribute we can pay to their memory is in walking as they taught us to walk.

Acting as prelate of Cyrene Commandery, I had the honor of assisting in conferring the degree of Knighthood upon him and I shall never forget the expression of his face, as he listened with tears streaming from his eyes, to the Prelate's address. It showed the tenderness of his heart and appreciation of the sublime truths so beautifully told in that incomparable address. We can rejoice in the fact that he has gone to a land where tears are unknown, and to the enjoyment of those blessings that such tears bring to the soul of man.

THE DEPARTED OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

Our brethren in other Jurisdictions have lost many of their noble leaders, worthy Knights and men and we should mingle our tears with their's over their loss.

We cannot be too often reminded that we were born to die and while we look over this list of departed brothers, the truth should be impressed on our minds, that it cannot be long before each one of us shall be called on to render an account to that Supreme Judge from whom not even the most secret thought of our heart is hidden.

"The young may die, the old must die,
And the wisest knowest not how soon."

Alabama has had to mourn the loss of Past Grand Commander Charles R. Westcott; Past Grand Commander and Grand Master of Masons Henry Hudson Matthews; Grand Captain General Edward S. Gatchell.

Colorado has lost Past Grand Commander Julius Bidwell Bissell.

Arizona has lost Grand Generalissimo Charley Oma Rouse.

Iowa has lost Past Grand Commander Abel W. Dougherty.

Kentucky has lost Past Grand Commander Martin Henry Smith, Past Grand Treasurer David Pliny Robb.

District of Columbia has lost Grand Generalissimo George Harrold Walker.

Missouri has lost Sir Knight Allen McDowell.

New Hampshire has lost Past Grand Commander Albert Scripture Wait.

Michigan has lost Past Grand Commander Edward D. Wheeler.

New Jersey has lost Past Grand Commander Edward Clift.

Ohio has lost Past Grand Commander J. Kelly O'Neill.

Texas has lost Past Grand Commander Lewis Montcalm Oppenheimer, and Grand Commander Marcus Fulton Mott.

And now, brethren, in giving back into your hands the authority with which you invested and honored me, I desire to thank you, one and all, hoping that you feel that your confidence was not misplaced. I know that I have served you only feebly, but it has been to the best of my ability, with an earnest desire to keep our blades as bright and untarnished as they have ever been in this jurisdiction. I have been very much encouraged and assisted through the year, by the well wishes and courteous treatment of all the Sir Knights throughout the jurisdiction.

It is an honor for any man, and to me, it has been a great pleasure, to rule over so Knightly a set of men.

They are the equals of any in the land, their superiors can nowhere be found.

To all my brother officers, but especially to our Grand Recorder Sir Knight Frederic Speed, than whom no Commandery ever had a better or more efficient one, my heartfelt thanks are due and are hereby tendered.

Earnestly praying that God's richest blessings may rest upon each

Sir Knight of this Grand Commandery and upon each Sir Knight throughout our grand old State of Mississippi, I am

Truly and Fraternally yours,

DEB. WADDELL.

APPORTIONMENT OF ADDRESS.

On motion, the address of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, was referred to a committee of three for apportionment to committees.

The Very Eminent, the Deputy Grand Commander appointed Sir Knights John Foggo Dixon, Thomas B. Franklin and William A. Stanton said committee, who retired and presently submitted the following report which, on motion, was adopted.

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

The Special Committee on the apportionment of the Grand Commander's address, beg leave to recommend that the same be referred as follows:

So much as refers to the opening and closing of Commanderies and an impressive rendering of the ritual, to a special committee of three.

So much as refers to a misinterpretation of the cipher ritual of the Grand Encampment by the misuse of the word "avenge," to a special committee of three.

So much as refers to dispensations to new Commanderies, to a special committee of three.

So much as relates to Christmas observance, to a special committee of three.

So much as refers to conferring the Order of Knight of Malta, to a special committee of three.

So much as refers to the ensuing Conclave of the Grand Encampment, to the Special Committee appointed last year, consisting of Sir Knights Martin, Boyd, Bradford, J. J. White and Heuck.

So much as relates to Necrology, to a special committee of three.

Courteously submitted,

JOHN FOGGO DIXON,
THOMAS B. FRANKLIN,
WILLIAM A. STANTON,
Committee.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Very Eminent, the Deputy Grand Commander thereupon appointed the following committees upon the several topics named in the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address:

Opening and Closing Ceremonies of Commanderies and Cipher Ritual, Sir Knights William G. Benbrook, James F. Hill and Walter G. Grayson.

So much as refers to Dispensations to New Commanderies, Sir Knights E. E. Clements, Wiley H. Clifton and J. N. Powers.

So much as relates to Christmas Observance, Sir Knights Joseph J. Brooks, John S. Cobb and E. C. Wright.

So much as refers to conferring the Order of Malta, Sir Knights Garland D. Brown, Louis A. Benoist and M. Leith Stigler.

So much as relates to Necrology, Sir Knights John A. B. Jones, J. H. Johnson and M. T. Rodgers.

GRAND RECORDER'S REPORT.

The Grand Recorder submitted his Annual Report as follows, which on motion, was referred to the Committee on Finance, to be appointed.

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery :

Up to the first of February, one Commandery had paid its arrearage for 1904, six Commannderies had paid their arrearages for 1905, eleven Commannderies had made their returns and paid their dues for 1906. Six other Commannderies had made their returns, but failed to correct errors or to pay dues prior to the closing of this account, leaving four Commannderies which have not made their returns or paid their dues, three of which will probably do so before the meeting of the Grand Commandery.

Dispensations were issued to the two new Commannderies, ordered at the last Annual Grand Conclave, as below :

Newton at Newton, in Newton County, to the following Sir Knights : J. C. McClinton, Clarence R. Hoyer, Horace W. Hoyer, A. L. Hoyer, Joseph O. Walton, Floyd Willis, H. C. Major, Thomas A. Baucum, J. J. Haralson, John A. Webb, I. W. Cooper, W. Lawrence Wilson. J. J. Haralson being designated as the first Commander, J. C. McClinton as Generalissimo and Clarence R. Hoyer as Captain General.

Yalobusha at Grenada, in Grenada County, to the following Sir Knights : William H. Whittaker, A. H. Bays, Edwin Wright, J. E. DeLoach, R. Jesse West, Eugene Howry, Alfred P. Gunthorp, George W. Field, J. B. Talbert, James C. Longstreet, D. D. Wilkins, H. S. Dunn, J. S. Saunders, John Wright, William H. Whittaker being designated as the first Commander, A. H. Bays, Generalissimo, and Edwin Wright Captain General.

Both of these Commannderies apply for Charters at this Conclave :

The following named Sir Knights applied to the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, for a dispensation for a new Commandery at New Albany, Union County, to be designated as New Albany Commandery: M. F. Rodgers, G. B. Mitchell, William M. Ticer, M. F. Parker, J. L. S. Rogers, F. T. Gaines, Clarence S. Cullens, J. L. Simpson, Tate Holland, George F. Cullens, T. L. Grace, B. B. Fitzpatrick, C. W. Bolton. M. F. Rodgers to be the first Commander, G. B. Mitchell, Generalissimo ; William M. Ticer, Captain General. Owing to the short time intervening between the filing of the petition and the meeting of the Grand Commandery and the fact that the Grand Recorder has been a victim of the prevailing epidemic, the dispensation has not yet been issued.

Courteously submitted,

FREDERIC SPEED,
Grand Recorder.

ACCOUNT CURRENT.

DEBIT.

1906			
March 3.	Dispensation Fee for Newton Commandery.....	\$ 100 00	
March 21.	Dispensation Fee for Grenada Commandery.....	100 00	
Nov'm 29.	Dues from Commanderies paid after Februry 10th, 1906.....	308 00	
1907.			
Feb'y. 10.	Dues from Commanderies paid before February 10th, 1907	1,294 00	
			<u>\$1,802 00</u>

CREDIT.

1906.			
Dece'r. 1.	Remitted Grand Treasurer.....	\$ 508 00	
1907.			
Feb'y. 10.	Remitted Grand Treasurer.....	1,294 00	
			<u>\$1,802 00</u>

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Warrants Nos. 186, 189, 193, 196, 200, 203, 208, 212, 216, 218, 219,	Salary as Grand Recorder.....	\$ 500 00	
Warrants Nos. 187, 190, 194, 199, 201, 202, 207, 210, 211, 215, 217,	220, Merchants National Bank, for rent of offices 302 and 303, for year.....	120 00	
Warrant No. 188, Mrs. J. A. Leach, Appropriation.....		100 00	
Warrant No. 189, Mississippi Printing Co., Printing, stationery and stamped envelopes.....		54 28	
Warrant No. 192, Frederic Speed, Contingent Fund.....		50 00	
Warrant No. 195, Mississippi Printing Co., Printing Proceedings and Stationery.....		239 60	
Warrant No. 197, W. Frank Pierce, California Relief.....		250 00	
Warrant No. 198, Rogers & Smith Co., Portraits for Proceedings		27 25	
Warrant No. 204, John A. Gerow, Grand Recorder, Grand En- campment Dues.....		51 70	
Warrant No. 205, Clarke & Co., Stationery.....		1 45	
Warrant No. 206, John A. Gerow, Grand Recorder, Grand En- campment Dues.....		1 00	
Warrant No. 209, W. G. Sharkey Stone Co., Power Monument..		250 00	
Warrant No. 213, Gus J. Bahin, Grand Treasurer, Pay Roll at Brookhaven		263 20	
Warrant No. 214, Gus J. Bahin, Grand Treasurer, Salary for 1905		50 00	

GRAND COMMANDERY RECEIPTS, 1905.

PAID AFTER FEBRUARY 10, 1906.

Name of Commandery	Number Members	Dues at \$1.00	Knighted at \$5.00	Total.
Delta.....	39	\$39 00	.....	\$39 00
Edwards	33	33 00	\$20 00	53 00
Greenwood.	20	20 00	.....	20 00
Holly Springs,.....	37	37 00	15 00	52 00
Ivanhoe.....	71	71 00	.....	71 00
St. Elmo.....	58	58 00	5 00	63 00
				\$298 00
*Coahoma.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00
		\$258 00	\$40 00	\$308 00

*—Balance 1904.

GRAND COMMANDERY RECEIPTS, 1906.

PAID BEFORE FEBRUARY 10, 1907.

Name of Commandery	Number Members	Dues at \$1.00	Knighted at \$5.00	Total
Aberdeen.....	38	\$ 38 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 43 00
Cyrene.....	171	171 00	155 00	326 00
Edwards.....	35	35 00	10 00	45 00
Lexington.....	54	54 00	10 00	64 00
Mississippi.....	45	45 00	25 00	70 00
Rosalie.....	68	68 00	35 00	103 00
Mary Savery.....	47	47 00	10 00	57 00
St. Cyr.....	80	80 00	30 00	110 00
St. Elmo.....	94	94 00	160 00	254 00
The Coast.....	51	51 00	95 00	146 00
Yazoo.....	51	51 00	25 00	76 00
Grand Totals.....	.....	\$734 00	\$560 00	\$1,294 00

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his Annual Report as follows, which, on motion, was referred to the Finance Committee, to be appointed:

G. J. BAHIN, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND COMMANDERY.

1906.

Feb. 14. To balance cash on hand.....\$1.841 29

Dec. 3. To cash from F. Speed, Grand Recorder..... 508 00

1907.

Feb. 11. To cash from F. Speed, Grand Recorder..... 1,294 00 \$ 3,643 29

1906.

Mch.	8.	By Cash	F. Speed.....	Voucher	1	\$	41 66
"	8.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	2		10 00
"	8.	"	Mrs. J. A. Leach.....	"	3		100 00
"	31.	"	F. Speed.....	"	4		41 66
Apl.	7.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	5		10 00
"	9.	"	Mississippi Print'g Co..	"	6		54 28
"	20.	"	F. Speed, Salary April.	"	7		41 66
"	20.	"	Contingent	"	8		50 00
"	25.	"	Mississippi Print'g Co..	"	9		239 60
"	25.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	10		10 00
May	21.	"	California K. T. Relief	"	11		250 00
"	21.	"	F. Speed, Salary May..	"	12		41 66
"	21.	"	Rogers & Smith.....	"	13		27 25
June	7.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	14		10 00
"	16.	"	F. Speed, Sal. Jne-Jly.	"	15		83 32
July	21.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	16		10 00
Aug.	9.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	17		10 00
"	11.	"	Fred Speed.....	"	18		41 66
"	25.	"	Grand Encamt. Dues...	"	19		51 70
Sept.	6.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	20		10 00
"	8.	"	J. A. Gerow, G. Recr..	"	21		1 00
"	8.	"	Clarke & Co.....	"	22		1 45
"	15.	"	F. Speed.....	"	23		41 66
"	24.	"	W.G. Sharkey Stone Co	"	24		250 00
Nov.	13.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	25		10 00
"	16.	"	F. Speed, Oct.....	"	26		41 66
"	19.	"	Pay Roll, Brookhaven..	"	27		263 20
"	19.	"	Grand Treas'rs Salary.	"	28		50 00
Dec.	5.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	29		10 00
"	6.	"	F. Speed, Salary Nov..	"	30		41 66
1907.							
Jany.	8.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	31		10 00
"	15.	"	F. Speed.....	"	32		41 66
Feb.	8.	"	F. Speed.....	"	33		41 66
"	11.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	34		10 00
"	14.	"	Trunk and Shade.	"	35		11 00
"	14.	"	Merchants Natl. Bank..	"	36		10 00

\$3,643 29

2,009 40

\$2,009 40

Balance\$1,633 89

TIME OF MEETING.

On motion of Eminent Sir Walter M. Conner, the following was adopted :

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at the last Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, separating the time and place of meeting of the Grand Commandery from that of the Grand Lodge, be repealed and that the next Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery be held with Hattiesburg Commandery at Hattiesburg on Friday following the meeting of the Grand Lodge in February, 1908.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander, appointed Sir Knights James C. French, R. Hiram Henry and Emmet N. Thomas as a Committee on Finance.

ORDER OF MALTA.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address as refers to conferring the Order of Malta, reported as follows, which was on motion adopted :

To the Grand Commandery of Mississippi:

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, relating to the Conferring of the Order of Malta recommended that the same must be done in accordance with the recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

G. D. BROWN,

L. A. BENOIST,

Committee.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, as relates to the Christmas Observance, submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted:

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your Committee to whom was referred that part of the Grand Commander's report on Christmas observance, beg leave to submit the following report: We heartily endorse the recommendations.

E. C. WRIGHT,

For Committee.

OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONY AND CIPHER RITUALS.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, as refers to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and Cipher Rituals, submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

We your Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address referring to Opening and Closing in Form, recommend that same always be done when practicable;

and as to so much as refers to use of Key Ritual, recommend that keys be entirely dispensed with and only the Ritual used that is furnished by the Grand Encampment.

Courteously submitted,

W. G. BENBROOK,
J. F. HILL,
W. G. GRAYSON,
Committee.

NECROLOGY.

The Special Committee on Necrology submitted the following memorial of Right Eminent Phineas M. Savery, which, was on motion, adopted standing and in silence, and the Grand Recorder was directed to complete the report of the committee.

IN MEMORIUM.

Phineas Messenger Savery, Past Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Mississippi.

Sir Knight Savery was born in Attleborough, Bristol County, Massachusetts, July 30th, 1830. In early youth his father immigrated to Mexico; later on removing to Clay County, Mo.

P. M. Savery enlisted under Sterling Price, and was with him in all his engagements west of the Mississippi River, under the gallant McCullough.

Under that "wizard of the saddle," Nathan Bedford Forrest, he fought at Corinth, Holly Springs, Franklin, Rome, Ga., Harrisburg, Brice's Cross Roads and Selma, surrendering at Gainesville, Ala., in 1865, to Gen. E. R. S. Canby. With visor down and lance at rest, he battled for the land of the "orange and the vine" with all the chivalry of an Arthur, or Ivanhoe.

Capt. P. M. Savery was made a Mason at Oxford, Miss., in 1864. He received the chapter degrees at Baldwyn, Miss., in 1868. He took the orders of the Temple in 1870; was advanced to the High Priesthood in 1872, and took the Scottish Rite just prior to his death.

He occupied almost every office known to Masonry and in every one of which he could truthfully say, that he was a Prince of the House of Judah, the first among his equals and a Mason.

Captain Savery was the purest, brightest and most devoted Mason that Mississippi has produced, but it is not of Captain Savery as a Mason or as a soldier that we drop this flower upon his grave, it was in the humbler walks of life that the beauty of his character shone in all its grandeur.

As a companion in arms he won our esteem, as a Mason we revered him, but, as a knight waging war for Immanuel, he won our love and affection.

"He was the noblest Roman of them all." His pathway through life led along virtue's ways, a bright and honorable course. From beside

virtue's path he daily plucked those beauteous flowers of love, and joy, and innocence that can never, never, die.

Men like P. M. Savery, when they come to the River's brink, and the angel of death hands them that cup of darkest drink, quaff it and do not shrink.

He did not fear to lie down in the cold, damp grave with the princes or peasants for his bed fellows. He did not fear the passage through the dark valley of the shadow of death. He knew the passage led to the land of Elysium, the land of the blessed.

He was our friend, faithful and true : the dearest we ever knew.

M. F. ROGERS,
For the Committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On motion the Grand Commandery proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing term, with the following result :

Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. MYERS.
Deputy Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. HOSKINS.
Grand Generalissimo.....	GARLAND D. BROWN.
Grand Captain General.....	JOHN S. BROOKS.
Senior Grand Warden.....	E. ERNEST CLEMENT.
Junior Grand Warden.....	EDWIN J. MARTIN.
Grand Prelate.....	JOHN A. B. JONES.
Grand Treasurer.....	GUS J. BAHIN.
Grand Recorder.....	FREDERIC SPEED.
Grand Standard Bearer.....	ROBERT A. STIGLER.
Grand Sword Bearer.....	JOSEPH J. BROOKS.
Grand Warder.....	LOUIS A. BENOIST.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery :

Your Committee on Finance have examined the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and vouchers supporting the same, and find them correct ; and have also examined the Grand Recorder's accounts and vouchers and find them correct.

J. C. FRENCH,
R. H. HENRY,
E. N. THOMAS,
Committee.

TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address, as refers to the ensuing Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, submitted the following report, which was, on motion, adopted :

To the Right Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery :

Your Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Commander's address as referred to the ensuing Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment recommend that Sir Knight Edwin J. Martin be continued as Chairman of the Triennial Committee and that the Grand Commander add to said committee such other Sir Knights as may be agreeable to Sir Knight Martin, as his associates.

Also: That said committee, when formed, be authorized and directed to proceed in its discretion to make arrangements for the attendance of this Grand Commandery at the Triennial Conclave and authorized to expend six hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the general expenses of said committee in said work.

Courteously submitted,

W. M. CONNER,
L. A. BENOIST,
E. N. THOMAS,
Committee.

NEW COMMANDERIES.

The Special Committee to whom was referred so much of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address as refers to the establishment of new Commanderies submitted the following report which was, on motion, adopted :

To the Right Eminent, the Grand Commandery:

Your committee appointed on that part of the Right Eminent, the Grand Commander's address as to dispensations granted and refused, approve the same. We recommend that charters issue to Yallobusha and Newton Commanderies.

We recommend that the dispensation ordered by the Grand Commander, for a new Commandery at New Albany be issued, the same to be known and designated as New Albany Commandery.

Courteously submitted,

E. E. CLEMENT,
J. N. POWERS,
W. H. CLIFTON,
Committee.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Upon motion of Eminent Sir Garland D. Brown, the following vote of thanks was unanimously adopted :

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Mississippi in Asylum assembled desires to express to the various committees having our entertainment within the city in charge ; to the officers and fraters of Rosalie Commandery No. 5, and to the other Masonic bodies, and to the citizenship generally, and especially to the Pastor and Stewards of the Methodist church for the use of the same during the Devotional offices and to the choirs of the Methodist and Trinity Episcopal churches for their splendid rendering of the musical portion of the services, and last but not least to Mr. A. Zurhellen for the magnificent cane presented by him to be given to the most popular Knight Templar in the State and which was awarded to the Grand Recorder. To these and all of these, our sincere thanks are due and with a hearty appreciation of their magnificent hospitality and numerous courtesies we extend profound thanks.

INSTALLATION.

At the request of the retiring Grand Commander Past Grand Commander Frederic Speed installed the Grand Officers elect, as follows :

Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. MYERS.
Deputy Grand Commander.....	GEORGE C. HOSKINS.
Grand Generalissimo.....	GARLAND D. BROWN.
Grand Captain General.....	JOHN S. BROOKS.
Senior Grand Warden.....	E. ERNEST CLEMENT.
Junior Grand Warden.....	EDWIN J. MARTIN.
Grand Prelate.....	JOHN A. B. JONES.
Grand Treasurer.....	GUS J. BAHIN.
Grand Standard Bearer.....	ROBERT A. STIGLER.
Grand Sword Bearer.....	JOSEPH J. BROOKS.
Grand Warder.....	LOUIS A. BENOIST.

The Grand Commander then installed the Grand Recorder.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The Right Eminent, the Grand Commander announced the appointment of the following committees :

TEMPLAR LAW: Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Chairman; William A. Bodenhamer, P.E.C., DeB. Waddell, P.G.C.

FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE: Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Grand Commandery having concluded the business of its Forty-seventh Annual Conclave, was then adjourned until its Forty-eighth Annual Grand Conclave, to be held in the Asylum of Hattiesburg Commandery, in the city of Hattiesburg, on Friday, February 14th, 1908.

Geo. C. Myers

Grand Commander.

ATTEST:

Frederic Speed

Grand Recorder,

NO NIGHT THERE.

No night there, but an endless day
In that beautiful city, far away, far away,
Just beyond the river that land I see
Jesus is waiting to welcome me.

Why are you troubled here below
When to that beautiful land you shall go ?
Who'll be with us, what shall we see
When we cross over the jasper sea,

Flowers are blooming on every hand ;
Rivers like crystal in that beautiful land ;
Music the sweetest, fragrance rare :
We'll dwell with Jesus, there's no night there

No night there, no night there ;
God is the light, there's no night there :
No night there, no night there,
God is the light, there's no night there.



Wm. Barry

THOSE WHO HAVE MOVED A LITTLE NEARER TO THE MASTER.

The departure of a good man after a long and honorable earthly career, fills the heart with mingled emotions of pain and of joy, such as was expressed so beautifully by Longfellow in his lamentation of Hiawatha on the death of Chibiabos:

" He is dead the sweet musician!
He the sweetest of all singers!
He has gone from us forever.
He has moved a little nearer
To the Master of all music.
To the Master of all singing!
Oh my brother, Chibiabos!"

It is not him who dies but he who survives that suffers when the final parting comes and our friends are taken away from us. They have fought the good fight and won the victory, but with us who remain, the battle goes on and the clouds hover around us and obscure the vision. They have passed through the mystery of death and it is no longer an unsolvable enigma. To us who are alive, the impenetrable problem confounds and bewilders. It is impossible to philosophise beside the open coffin and to reason why we die. To our mere human understanding we should be immortal. The learning and experience which have developed the mind so that it is a mighty force, ought not to be blotted out and we become as babes again. The acorn which long years have developed into the majestic tree surely was made for some better purpose than that of being resolved into its original elements. This body of ours with all its wonderful machinery of brain, of vein and muscle should be enduring instead of the most perfect synonym of frailty and weakness. We were born to die, but why not to live, to live forever, increasing in strength and wisdom every day! No, there is no reasoning from a merely human standpoint and it is only when the light of revelation breaks in upon our poor finite minds that there is any light to lighten our darkness—and we can understand the mystery of mysteries and the answer comes to our questioning, why do we die.

But if we must die, why should one be taken and another left, why not the poor creature whose wasted life, seems to have been of no use to himself or his fellows, instead of "the sweetest of all singers." Why are we standing here to-day mourning for those who were lovely in this life and inconsolable because we are bereaved of those who were very dear to us! Can we say then that the mystery of life is solved so long as we must stand dumb in the presence of this greater mystery than that of death. It is not enough to say that the body having fulfilled the purpose for which it was made has simply perished as the flowers do. But why this flower and not that, why should not the noxious weed perish instead of the gor-

geous rose or the stately magnolia. Surely you who have knelt at the base of the triangle and tasted of the bitter cup of death with Him who died that you might live, will not repine because the Master calleth for thee and seek to answer this problem with earthly wisdom, for

"There is a reaper whose name is death,
And with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between."

When two such men as PHINEAS M. SAVERY and IRVIN MILLER pass away and the friendship cemented by long years of intimate association is broken off, we become as little children and grieve as if there was no ending to our sorrow, and we are disposed to murmur because the call has come to them to go up higher, but the Reaper drowns our wailings with a voice which comes rolling with a volume of sound into our rebellious hearts, like a diapason,

"Shall I have naught that is fair?" said he;
"Have naught but the bearded grain?"
Though the breath of these flowers is sweet to me
I will give them all back again."

I think that it may safely be said that of all the long list of useful Masons with which the Craft in Mississippi has been favored, there has been none who excelled PHINEAS MESSENGER SAVERY, from every point of view which is comprehended in a perfectly rounded character. In disposition he was altogether sweet and lovely. There was imbued in him the spirit of loving kindness which is the soul of all true religion; tolerant of the weakness and frailty of others he had faith in God and human nature and therefore could enfold the arms of his love around all who gathered at the Masonic altar, breathing a common hope and looking for a common destiny. He did not need to be taught Masonry, for with him it was an inspiration—a part of his own nature. And yet there was nothing of weakness in him and he did not excuse or tolerate that which was debasing or ignoble. Setting the highest standard for his own life he endeavored to impress all who came within the sphere of his influence with his own lofty moulding. This made him a good citizen as well as a good Mason, it drew him close to the very horns of the altar as a Christian and churchman, and in the hour of his country's need it was principle which impelled him to follow the flag he loved into the thickest smoke of the battle.

And as he was elsewhere so was he as a Mason. The Grand Master in paying tribute to him truthfully said, "He was a Mason who saw more, far more, in it than the mere working of degrees, fond as he was of its beautiful ceremonials, for to him there was in it the broad catholicity which takes up all men and brings them within the ever opening arms of God's love for his children and makes all men brethren.

He was not only an exceedingly expert ritualist and was thoroughly familiar with the work of all the bodies and could take his place in all of

them but he was more than this, for he was well grounded in the history, customs, usages and jurisprudence of the Craft. With a musical voice and winning and persuasive manners, combined with rare elocutionary powers, and the faculty of deep reasoning and of making application of his learning, he won others over to him because of his very strength, which captivated and held all hearers

As showing the character of the man and his estimate of Masonry and especially of the Templar Order, it seems only appropriate that a portion of his address as Grand Commander in 1874, should be incorporated in this memorial.

Sir Knights : Have we kept our vows to draw our mystic swords in defence of the innocent, the helpless, the destitute, and the Christian religion, while our members are permitted to drink strong drink to intoxication? Every heart answers, No! A thousand times, No! Then why do we permit it to exist unpunished in our ranks, when we all agree with Dr. Holland, "the sorrows and horrors of a wife with a drunken husband, are as near the realization of hell, as can be reached in this world." The habit of drinking to intoxication, which has become so general among men, and I am sorry to add Masons, "has made the inner life of so many suffering women, sunless and silent, and deep, like subterranean rivers, running through caverns of darkness, unheard, unseen, and unfruitful, chafing their channels of stone with endless and profitless murmurs." The scripture tells us to "look not then upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color to the cup; at last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder." Must our cheeks continue to be mantled with shame, and our pride of Knighthood humbled, by seeing those who have stood with us around the triangle, so disguised, so debased, by this most demoralizing, damning dose of the devil? I hope that a resolution will be introduced, making it the imperative duty of the Eminent Commander of every Subordinate Commandery within this jurisdiction, to have every drunkard brought to trial for unknighly conduct, and if found guilty, he must be expelled, or suspended, or reprimanded, as the members may decide. This is a duty we owe to our own self-respect, and the good of our great Order. It is our duty to decide that as Christian Knights we certainly should respect the Sabbath day and keep it holy; and not do violence to the teachings of our Order, the opinions of good men, and the commands of our Saviour, by using profane language upon any occasion. What we have sealed with the hilt, let us defend with the point.

The Order of the Temple is to Christianity, what the ivy is to the oak. The oak, by its firm foundation and sturdy trunk, enables the clinging vine to lift its tender head above the noxious vapors of the earth, while the vine by its thick foliage and great beauty, protects and adorns the goodly tree. If a leaf or bough is found withered or decayed on this lovely vine, it should, without hesitation, be lopped off, as failing to serve the purpose of its creation. Christianity cannot support those who profane its sacred names.

An objection is made to our regalia as being too gaudy for Christians to wear. This is surely unfounded, as the High Priest, when officiating in the Sanctum Sanctorum, was by God's express command, arrayed most magnificently; and St. Peter used the sword to defend its religion. They would rob the flower of its beauty, because it has no material utility. If the beauty of our regalia attracts the thoughtless Mason, and gives us an opportunity to impress upon his mind the sublime truths of our Order, in the attractive and forcible manner of our ritual, can any one think it has done no good? I tell you to convert man from darkness to light, you must address his imagination and soul, as well as his reason; it is, therefore, impossible for the almighty power of truth, the Divinity of Christ, the certainty of death, and the resurrection of the dead, to be too often or too severely taught; certainly not in this age. After awhile, when Masonry and Christianity have converted the world to the true worship of the Ever-living God, and the decalogue ceases to be violated, then, and not till then, should our efforts be stayed. Wearing bright regalia we should realize that the eyes of the world are upon us, and we are expected to be better than other Masons, that our character is the standard of our worth. That we should not be like the grape-clad mountain, containing a volcano of passion in its bosom, or like the green meadow with a tortuous stream of deceit coursing through it; but be noble, be great. Recollect, Masonry is sent into the world to stimulate the human race to sublime activities, and to communicate to it a new element of progress. "Love ceases, music dies away, but the good we have accomplished remains."

We have just cause to be proud of this grand institution, which has done so much to develop and illustrate the moral and intellectual attributes of our nature. Yes, it is a noble, magnanimous and sublime sentiment which expands our affections, enlarges the circle of our sympathies, and elevates the soul of man.

In the final leavetaking of one with whom I had been so intimately associated for the long period of thirty-six years and with whom I had been thrown in intimate association, in Masonic works innumerable, it is not the extravagance of eulogy for me to say he was the "sweetest of all singers," and so in few words to place on record my estimate of him and a sense of the sorrow which fills my heart to overflowing.

IRVIN MILLER, Past Grand Prelate, was one of those large framed men with powers of mind of equal proportions, but whose heart was tender and true, which prompted his taking within his embrace all his fellows. His was a big mind in a big body with a big heart to control it. He, too, was mighty in all he undertook, and whatever he put his hand to do was done with all his soul and a persistency which knew no defeat. If he had been a blacksmith he would have struck the anvil with heavy blows and been the best in all the country 'round about, but being a preacher, he knew when to strike light blows and when heavy ones, and thus it was that he swayed the people with his tenderness and devotion, his earnest-

ness and his pleading. He was like Paul, he knew how to be abased and how to abound, both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need; and so he merchandised and tilled the soil for a living and preached Christ that others might have everlasting life, combining in one, the vocations of several men.

He was Grand Master in 1893, and set about his task with the same zeal which characterized him in other fields, and his administration was singularly successful.

He was Grand Prelate and Grand Chaplain a number of times and wore his honors worthily.

His services were requisitioned on committees in all the bodies, and everywhere he was a worker.

His people sent him to the Legislature, and he aided in making laws with the same vehemence that he worked and preached. Always on the side of right, and having faith in the people, his influence was exerted on the side of fairness, justice and right. Men believed in him because they knew that he was honest to the core and would not be a party to their deception, and it was no wonder that he gathered round him a large following who were always ready to give him their endorsement.

There may be some who know more of the mere words of the Rituals than he did, but there was none who was more thoroughly imbued with the soul and spirit of Masonry and who practiced it more faithfully than Irvin Miller.

The community in which he lived lost a brave and zealous leader, the church a faithful and devoted servant, and Masonry an active, earnest and self-sacrificing brother who believed in it, acted upon its precepts and died in its faith that all men are brothers, and God the Father of us all; and this writer, a friend firm, devoted and true, when he went up to stand nearer to "the Master of all singing."

There are some men who are so endowed by nature that to be brought in contact with them is in itself an inspiration. FRANK HILLEBERT THOMAS, whose departure on the 13th of April, as these proceedings are going to the printer, was such a man, and the mere fact that in what remains of the little journey of life, to his friend who writes this paper, he must henceforth be accompanied by one less of those who have made its pathway smoother and brighter, brings his death home to him as a personal bereavement. There are some whom we seem to have always known and cannot recollect when we first met them, for they become a part of ourselves from the very beginning.

For years I had been in constant correspondence with him and had as occasion offered, spent many pleasant hours with him and the recollection of our intercourse will always remain a bright spot in my life.

He was high minded, open hearted, generous and courteous, and had a manly honesty, which combined with a commanding figure, made him a marked man in every assembly. He was Grand Captain

General of the Grand Encampment and had he lived his laudable ambition and that of his numerous friends, to reach the highest round would unquestionably have been fulfilled :

" So will we think of them just as they were,
Their voices sweet and all their pleasant ways;
And thoughts like these will help us through the days,
Until we go to meet them where they are."

FREDERIC SPEED.



JOHN K. FULS

Grand Con. Secy.

1839-1870

the first of these is the fact that the
 country is a very fertile one, and the
 soil is very rich.

The second is the fact that the
 climate is very healthy, and the
 air is very pure.

THE HISTORY OF



JOHN K. FULSON

Grand Commander

1869-1870

THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THEIR PILGRIMAGE.

Aberdeen, No. 17.

EDWARD W. HOLMES, - - September 29, 1906.

Cyrene, No. 9.

PIERCE A. CROOK, - - - September 13, 1906.

HUGH McNEILL, - - - October 11, 1906.

IRVIN MILLER, - - - March 20, 1906.

CHARLES P. LEWIS, - - - March 25, 1906.

Hattiesburg, No. 21.

HUGH MALCOLM McCALLUM, - - April 2, 1906.

Holly Springs, No. 4.

JAMES WARREN STEPHENSON, - January 5, 1906.

Ivanhoe, No. 10.

PHINEAS MESSENGER SAVERY, P.G.C., Dec. 20, 1906.

Lexington, No. 3.

WALTER M. ANDERSON, - - February 17, 1906.

HENRY S. HOOKER, - - - July 23, 1906.

Mississippi, No. 1.

RICHARD GRIFFITH, - - - February 2, 1906.

Rosale, No. 5.

WILLIAM S. DOBYNS, - - - January 26, 1906.

WILLIAM B. IRVINE, P.E.C., - - February 22, 1906.

ROBERT M. McGEE, - - - July, 1906.

LANDRY S. DUCOTE, - - - December 28, 1905.

St. Cyr, No. 6.

D. D. WILKINS, - - - March 21, 1906.

WILLIAM H. PRICE, P.E.C., - - March 31, 1906.

THOMAS J. BINFORD, - - - May 17, 1906.

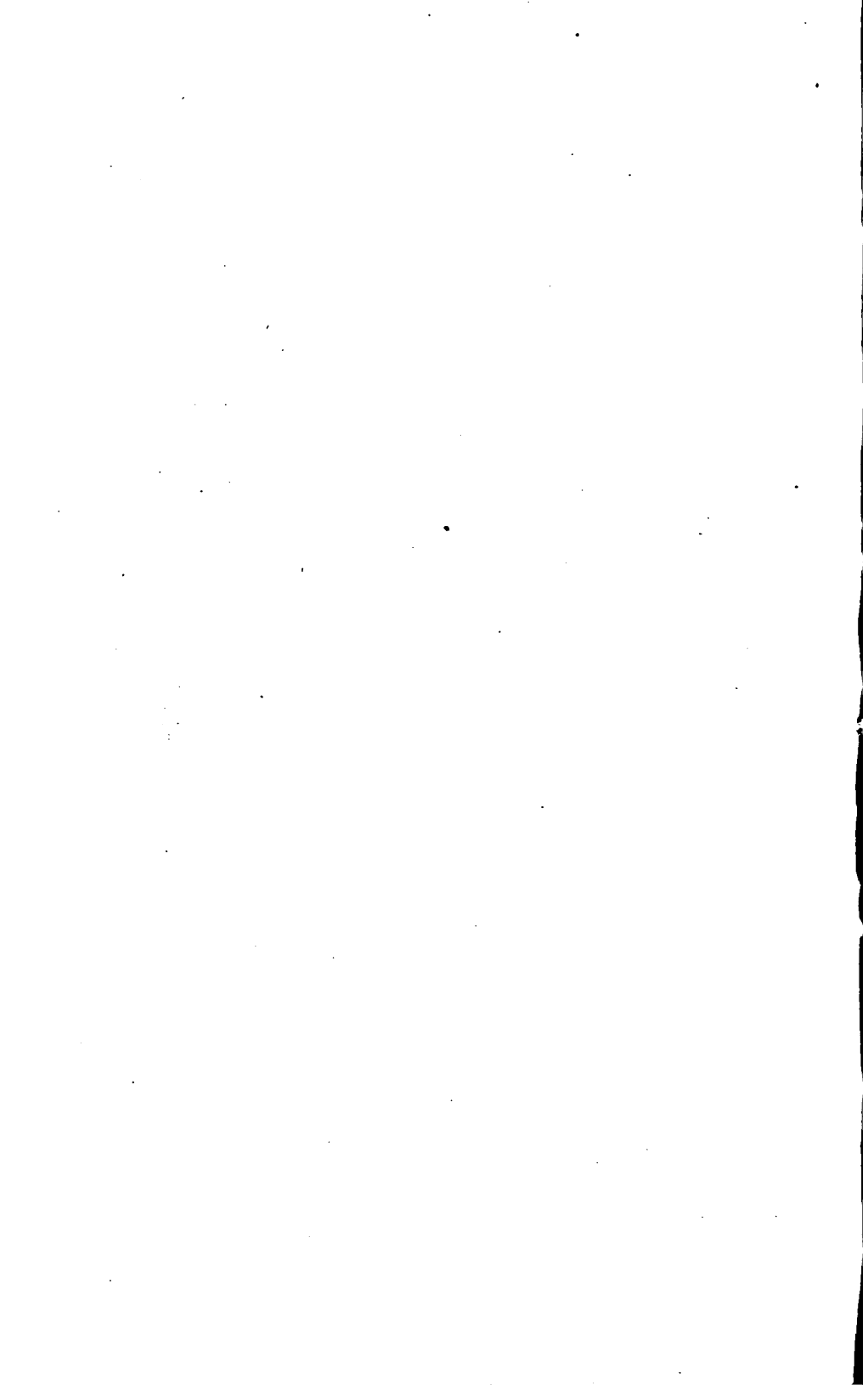
J. LOUIS SISK, - - - June 11, 1906.

West Point, No. 20.

H. CLAY BARKSDALE, - - December 5, 1906.

Yazoo, No. 23.

SAMUEL S. SHIPP, - - - January 18, 1906.



ROSTER OF COMMANDERIES.

NAME OF COMMANDERY.	POST OFFICE.	COMMANDER.	RECORDER.
ABERDEEN, 17	ABERDEEN	A. Clarence Lowe	H. C. Hamilton.
CANTON, 12	CANTON	Defunct	Ellington Fant.
COAHOMA, 22	CLARKSDALE	John S. Brooks (Robinsonville)	
CEUR DE LEON, 13	PORT GIBSON	Defunct	
CYRENE, 9	MERIDIAN	P. A. Broach	Andrew J. Peck.
DELTA, 16	GREENVILLE	Emmet N. Thomas	C. A. Kinkad.
DEMOLAY, 8	COLUMBUS	C. Lee Lincoln	Henry M. Waddell.
EDWARDS, 26	EDWARDS	A. McCallum	T. P. Martin.
GREENWOOD, 24	GREENWOOD	E. R. McShane	G. B. Stewart.
GRENADA, 15	GRENADA	Defunct	
HATTIESBURG, 21	HATTIESBURG	T. A. McElreath	J. W. Montague.
HOLLY SPRINGS, 4	HOLLY SPRINGS	Lester G. Fant	Langstrom B. Mosby.
IVANHOE, 10	OKALONA	T. M. Walton	N. A. Love.
KOSCIUSKO, 11	KOSCIUSKO	Defunct	
LEXINGTON, 3	LEXINGTON	W. Lonnie Jordon	Walter K. Darden.
MACON, 25	MACON	W. F. Scales	J. O. Faser.
MAGNOLIA, 2	VICKSBURG	R. B. Chapman	James K. Moore.
MARY SAVERY, 14	CORINTH	J. H. Collier	J. P. Collier.
MISSISSIPPI, 1	JACKSON	A. P. Lusk	William J. Brown, Jr.
NEW ALBANY, U. D.	NEW ALBANY	M. F. Rogers	
NEWTON, 27	NEWTON	George F. Haynes	J. M. Halladay.
ROSALIE, 5	NATCHEZ	W. G. Benbrook	Charles F. Merrick.
St. CYR, 6	WATER VALLEY	Robert W. Helm	C. E. Romberger.
St. ELMO, 18	BROOKHAVEN	John E. Seavey	L. P. Kees.
THE COAST, 19	BLOXI	W. G. Gray	Henry J. Meaut.
WEST POINT, 20	WEST POINT	J. N. Powers	D. A. Meek.
WINONA, 7	WINONA	Defunct	
YALOBUSHA, 26	GRENADA	W. H. Whitaker	T. E. Moody.
YAZOO, 23	YAZOO CITY	A. B. Kelly	M. Leith Stigler.

ROSTER OF GRAND COMMANDERIES.

- ALABAMA—Grand Recorder, George A. Beauchamp, Montgomery.
ARIZONA—Grand Recorder, George J. Roskrugé, Tucson.
ARKANSAS—Grand Recorder, Fay Hempstead, Little Rock.
CALIFORNIA—Grand Recorder, William A. Davies, Alameda.
CANADA—Grand Chancellor, William H. Whyte, Montreal.
COLORADO—Grand Recorder, Charles H. Jacobson, Denver.
CONNECTICUT—Grand Recorder, Eli C. Birdsey, Meriden.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Grand Recorder, Arvine W. Johnson, Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES—Grand Vice-Chancellor, C. F. Matier, Mark Masons Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W. C. England.
FLORIDA—Grand Recorder, Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville.
GEORGIA—Grand Recorder, William S. Rockwell, Savannah.
IDAHO—Grand Recorder, James A. Pinney, Boise.
ILLINOIS—Grand Recorder, Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago.
INDIANA—Grand Recorder, Calvin W. Prather, Indianapolis.
INDIAN TERRITORY—Grand Recorder, Joseph Samuel Morrow, Atoka.
IOWA—Grand Recorder, David Millar Brownlee, Sioux City.
KANSAS—Grand Recorder, Thomas J. Anderson, Topeka.
KENTUCKY—Grand Recorder, Alfred Hughes Bryant, Covington.
LOUISIANA—Grand Recorder, Richard Lambert, New Orleans.
MAINE—Grand Recorder, Stephen Berry, Portland.
MARYLAND—Grand Recorder, John H. Miller, Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—Grand Recorder, Benjamin W. Rowell, Boston.
MICHIGAN—Grand Recorder, Henry L. Anthony, Sturgis.
MINNESOTA—Grand Recorder, Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul.
MISSISSIPPI—Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed, Vicksburg.
MISSOURI—Grand Recorder, Robert F. Stevenson, St. Louis.
MONTANA—Grand Recorder, Cornelius Hedges, Helena.
NEBRASKA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. White, Omaha.
NEW HAMPSHIRE—Grand Recorder, Frank Dana Woodbury, Concord.
NEW JERSEY—Grand Recorder, Thomas H. R. Redway, Trenton.
NEW MEXICO—Grand Recorder, Alpheus A. Keene, Albuquerque.
NEW YORK—Grand Recorder, John H. Bonnington, 27 East 21st Street, New York.
NORTH CAROLINA—Grand Recorder, James C. Munds, Wilmington.
NORTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, Frank J. Thompson, Fargo.
OHIO—Grand Recorder, John Nelson Bell, Dayton.
OKLAHOMA—Grand Recorder, Harper S. Cunningham, Guthrie.
OREGON—Grand Recorder, James F. Robinson, Eugene.

PENNSYLVANIA—Grand Recorder, William W. Allen, Philadelphia.

SCOTLAND—Grand Recorder, Lindsey McKersey, Edinburgh.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Grand Recorder, George A. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE—Grand Recorder, John B. Garrett, Nashville.

TEXAS—Grand Recorder, John Carson Kidd, Houston.

VERMONT—Grand Recorder, Henry H. Ross, Burlington.

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA—Grand Recorder, Charles Chapman, Melbourne.

VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, James B. Blanks, Petersburg.

WASHINGTON—Grand Recorder, Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla.

WEST VIRGINIA—Grand Recorder, Francis E. Nichols, Fairmont.

WISCONSIN—Grand Recorder, William W. Perry, Milwaukee.

WYOMING—Grand Recorder, Adrian J. Parshall, Cheyenne.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT—Grand Recorder, John A. Gerow, Detroit, Michigan.

Abstract. Let R be a Noetherian local Gorenstein ring and let M be a finitely generated reflexive R -module. We prove that if $\text{depth}_R(M) \geq n - 1$, then $\text{Ext}^n_R(M, R)$ is a free R -module of rank $\dim(R)$. This generalizes a result of Auslander and Buchsbaum [A-B] and extends a theorem of Herz [H].

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JOHN K. FULSON

Grand Commander

1869-1870

Grand Commanders

From Organization—1857 to 1908.

William H. Stevens.....	1857	to 1858—Died October 13, 1866.
George P. Crump.....	1858	to 1859—Died 1860.
Giles Mumford Hillyer.....	1859	to 1860—Died April 23, 1871.
Harvey W. Walter.....	1860	to 1861—Died Sept. 19, 1878.
Benjamin S. Tappan.....	1861	to 1866—Died March 1, 1866.
Edward Lee.....	1866	to 1867—Died 1878.
Christopher A. Manlove.....	1867	to 1868—Died Dec. 29, 1878.
Fleet C. Mercer.....	1868	to 1869—Died January 26, 1885.
John K. Fulsom.....	1869	to 1870—Died July 10, 1905.
Charles T. Bond.....	1870	to 1871—Died Dec. 14, 1872.
William S. Patton.....	1871	to 1872—Died July 5, 1889.
Enoch George DeLap.....	1872	to 1873
Edmund T. Henry.....	1873	to 1874—Died April 19, 1881.
Phineas Messenger Savery.....	1874	to 1875—Died Dec. 20, 1906.
Gid. W. Cox.....	1875	to 1876—Died July 9, 1900.
Oliver Clifton.....	1876	to 1877—Died January 2, 1905.
William A. Fairchild.....	1877	to 1878—Died Sept. 20, 1878.
William Gallatin Paxton.....	1878	to 1879—Died October 26, 1889.
Charles M. Erwin.....	1879	to 1880—(Non resident.)
William G. Benbrook.....	1880	to 1881.
William French.....	1881	to 1882—Died April 28, 1884.
James T. Meade.....	1882	to 1883—Died March 8, 1903.
Henry M. Romberger.....	1883	to 1884.
W. P. Towler.....	1884	to 1885—Died March 30, 1893.
John H. Gordon.....	1885	to 1886—Died February 17, 1902.
Bolivar H. Vaughan.....	1886	to 1887—Died November 5, 1897.
Nathan S. Walker.....	1887	to 1888—Died August 12, 1895.
Frederic Speed.....	1888	to 1890.
James J. Hayes.....	1890	to 1891.
Joseph Edward Leigh.....	1891	to 1892—Died November 7, 1891.
William A. Bodenhamer.....	1892	to 1893.
Samuel W. Ferguson.....	1893	to 1894.
James C. French.....	1894	to 1895.
Frank P. Jenkins.....	1895	to 1896—Died April 7, 1905.
James M. Buchanan.....	1896	to 1897.
James T. Harrison.....	1897	to 1898.
William Starling.....	1898	to 1899—Died Dec. 10, 1900.
John S. Cobb.....	1899	to 1900.
John A. B. Jones.....	1900	to 1901.
Harry T. Howard.....	1901	to 1902.
Oliver Lee McKay.....	1902	to 1903.
Robert Hiram Henry.....	1903	to 1904.
Frank Burkitt.....	1904	to 1905.
John Foggo Dixon.....	1905	to 1906.
DeB. Waddell.....	1906	to 1907.
George C. Myers.....	1907	to 1908.

Honorary Past Grand Commanders.

John Logan Power, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1891—Died Sept. 24, 1901.
John David Miles, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1892.
Gus J. Bahin, P.E.C.....	Elected in 1896.

MASONIC PERIODICALS.

American Tyler.....	Ann Arbor, Mich.
Australian Freemason.....	Melbourne, Australia.
Freemason.....	Toronto, Canada.
Globe.....	Gravette, Ark.
Illinois Freemason.....	Bloomington, Ill.
Masonic Advocate.....	Indianapolis, Ind.
Masonic Constellation.....	St. Louis, Mo.
Masonic News.....	Peoria, Ill.
Masonic Observer.....	Minneapolis, Minn.
Masonic Review.....	Johannesburg, South Africa.
Masonic Standard.....	1133 Broadway, New York.
Masonic Tidings.....	Milwaukee, Wis.
Masonic Token.....	Portland, Maine.
Masonic Voice and Review.....	Chicago, Ill.
Missouri Freemason.....	St. Louis, Mo.
New England Craftsman.....	Boston, Mass.
Revista Masonic Mexicana.....	Guadalajara, Mexico.
Square and Compass.....	New Orleans, La.
Tennessee Mason.....	Nashville, Tenn.
Texas Freemason.....	San Antonio, Texas.
Trestle Board.....	San Francisco, Cal.
Trowel.....	Little Rock, Ark.

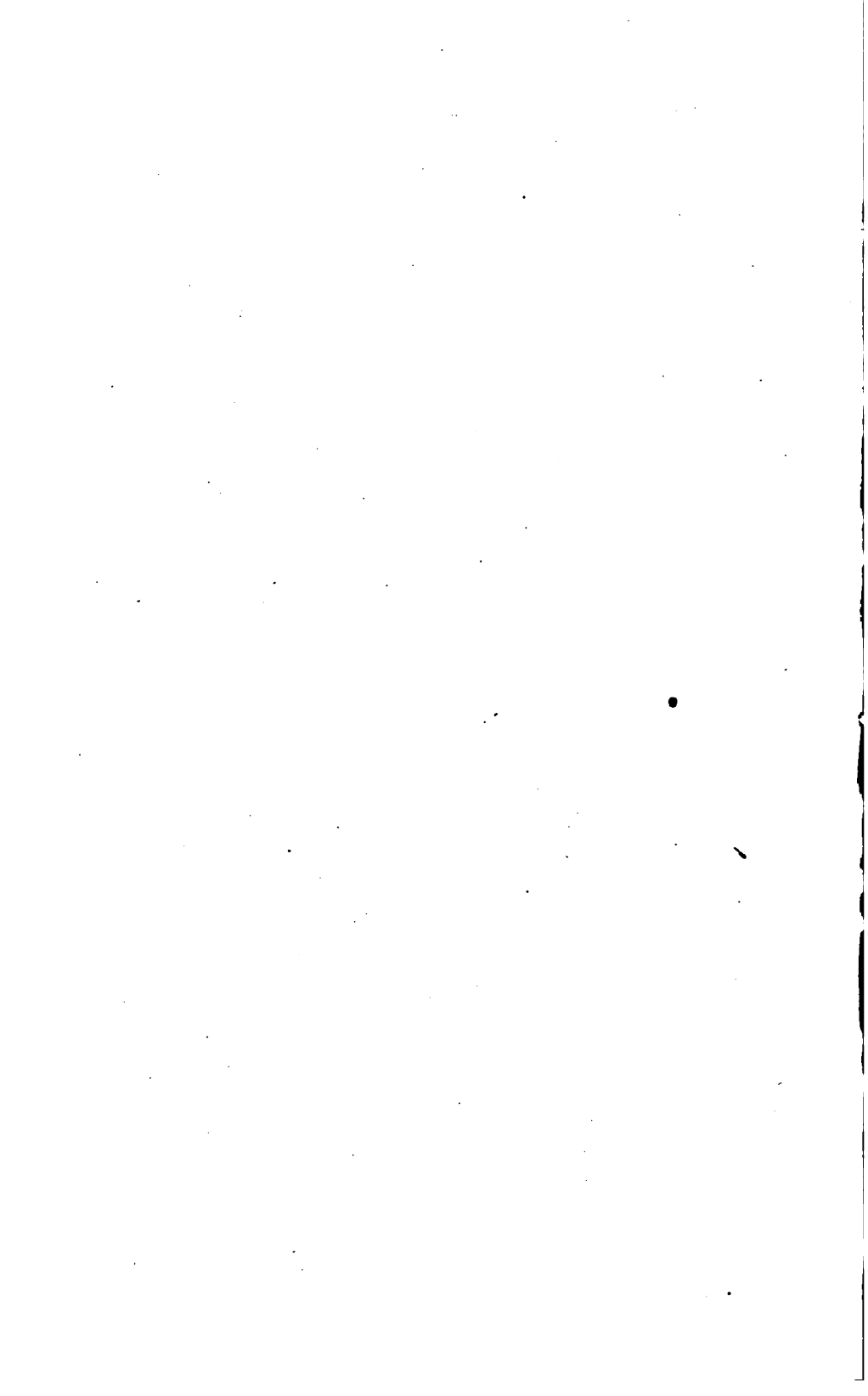
STATISTICAL TABLE.

1906-1907.

NAME.	MEMBERS, 1905.	KNIGHTED.	ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP.	REINSTATED.	GAIN.	DIMITTED.	DISFRANCHISED,	SUSPENDED U. M. C.	EXPULSED U. M. C.	DIED.	LOSS.	PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.
Aberdeen.....	41	1	.....	.....	1	2	1	.....	.....	1	4	38
Coahoma.....	31	11	.....	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
Cyrene.....	171	31	.....	1	32	23	5	.....	.....	4	32	171
DeMolay.....	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Delta.....	39	15	.....	.....	15	1	2	.....	.....	.....	3	51
Edwards.....	33	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
Greenwood.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Hattiesburg.....	63	28	3	.....	31	1	1	.....	.....	1	3	91
Holly Springs.....	37	3	.....	.....	3	.....	4	.....	.....	1	5	35
Ivanhoe.....	71	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	71
Lexington.....	52	2	2	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	54
Macon.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Magnolia.....	61	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	60
Mississippi.....	41	5	2	.....	7	2	.....	.....	.....	1	3	45
Rosalie.....	65	7	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	68
Mary Savery.....	45	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
St. Cyr.....	81	6	.....	.....	6	1	2	.....	.....	4	7	80
St. Elmo.....	59	32	.....	5	37	1	1	.....	.....	.....	2	94
The Coast.....	35	19	.....	.....	19	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	3	51
West Point.....	48	5	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	52
Yazoo.....	46	5	2	.....	7	1	.....	.....	.....	1	2	51
	1096	175	9	7	191	32	21	.....	.....	21	74	1213

Net Gain.....117





Returns of Commanderies.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 27, 1906.

Including Officers for 1907.

ABERDEEN COMMANDERY, No. 17.—ABERDEEN, MONROE COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves Fourth Thursday in each Month.

A. Clarence Lowe, P.E.C.....Com.	Joseph W. Eckford, P.E.C.....Treasurer
James L. Shell, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	H. Coleman Hamilton.....Recorder
Picket W. Lusk.....C. G.	Wiley H. Clifton, P.E.C.....St. Bearer
William Kimmel, P.E.C.....S. W.	Garnett S. Clopton, P.E.C.....Sw. Bearer
W. Granville Sykes, P.E.C.....J. W.	John M. Higgason.....Warder
Edgar G. Smith.....Prelate.	.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—John J. McDonald, Lee G. Nisbet.

MEMBERS.—Hugh Alexander, Robert L. Bartholomew, W. Alfred Bean, H. L. Blankenbaker, L. A. Bodine, J. A. Bowen, W. Oscar Butler, R. C. Cadden, Eugene C. Dalrymple, Charles W. Green, Joseph Ham, Robert R. Love, James A. Mayfield, James H. Murphy, J. C. Park, Mark P. Reed, Sidney J. Riggan, C. T. Schubert, Henry C. Stevenson, Ethelred L. Sykes, W. Clopton Sykes, Robert P. Wendell, D. Y. Wesson, Edgar Wilson, Henry D. York.—Total 38.

KNIGHTED.—W. Alfred Bean.

DMITTED.—William S. Lindawood, C. C. Medley.

DIED.—Edward W. Holmes, September 29, 1906.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—Thomas B. Holmes.

COAHOMA COMMANDERY, No. 22.—CLARKSDALE, COAHOMA COUNTY

Regular Conclaves, Second Tuesday in each month.

John S. Brooks.....Com.	J. H. Johnson.....Treasurer
S. Frederic Carr.....Gen'o.	Ellington Fant.....Recorder
M. J. Boulden.....C. G.	.....St. Bearer
J. J. Myers.....S. W.	.....Sw. Bearer
W. N. Moore.....J. W.	.....Warder
W. H. Fitzgerald, Jr.....Prelate.	.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—Joseph J. Brooks.

MEMBERS.—G. W. Beanland, A. T. Butler, G. W. Butler, Jr., H. M. Caldwell, T. A. Carder, J. B. Chism, John T. Cox, J. W. Cutrer, W. E. Dickey, W. E. Dickey, Jr., M. E. Denton, Elmo Draughn, A. G. Everett, E. M. Fant, Gerald FitzGerald, George S. Gage, W. L. Ganong, W. T.

Harris, R. B. Hebdon, F. L. Hope, W. H. Houston, R. B. Logan, J. T. Longino, J. W. Mack, B. T. Markette, W. P. Moore, John H. McCraney, C. E. McDaniels, T. H. McKenzie, L. E. Pierce, Jacob Thompson, Oscar Tolson, W. C. Weathersby.—Total 42.

KNIGHTED.—H. M. Caldwell, Elmo Draughn, A. G. Everett, Gerald FitzGerald, George S. Gage, W. L. Ganong, W. T. Harris, W. H. Houston, J. J. Myers, L. E. Pierce, Oscar Tolson.

CYRENE COMMANDERY, No. 9.—MERIDIAN, LAUDERDALE COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second Thursday in each month.

Pierce A. Broach.....Com.	Edwin J. Martin, P.E.C.....Treasurer
Walker P. Broach.....Gen'o.	A. J. Peck, P.E.C.....Recorder
William G. Simpson.....C. G.	Charles M. Card.....St. Bearer
Walter G. Hodges.....S. W.	William Joshua Smith.....Sw. Bearer
Beverly B. Pierce.....J. W.	Henry F. Broach, Jr., P.E.C.....Warder
DeB. Waddell, G.C.....Prelate.	David A. Ray.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—James M. Buchanan, G. Smalshaf, O. A. Harrison, Benjamin V. White, Oliver L. McKay, Melvin R. Grant, Frank E. Smith, Robert E. Moody, J. W. Hagemeyer, B. J. Allen, Alphonso B. Amis, William J. Anderson.

MEMBERS.—John S. Adams, Samuel N. Askew, Pierce B. Barnett, W. E. Baskin, George A. Baxter, E. S. Bostick, William L. Bostick, Albert S. Bozeman, F. D. Bradley, F. V. Brahan, C. Y. Brandan, James W. Brewster, Elon E. Broach, Walter E. Broach, Frederic W. Brass, Henry N. Brown, Edward Buckel, S. B. Burr, Charles T. Burt, Adam M. Byrd, William D. Cameron, William R. Card, B. J. Carter, Wade S. Carter, Cyrus P. Chambers, Isaac Champenois, Charles D. Christian, Jr., C. C. Coffee, J. Warren Collins, N. M. Collins, Josiah C. Cowin, Charles H. Dabbs, William A. Daniel, William L. Daniels, Robert M. Dixon, Cullen W. Doughtie, J. R. Dowdle, William H. Duff, Frank L. Eatman, John R. Ellis, Charles Elmore, M. P. Feazell, Sidney J. Ferguson, Edgar A. Foster, Cline D. Frankinson, Edward J. Gallagher, James A. Gallaspy, Phillip S. Gardiner, Tucker Gilmore, Robert Golden, C. L. Gray, Henry Sabe Gunn, John S. Hale, Robert P. Hall, William T. Halsell, W. B. Harberson, John H. Harris, James C. Haugh, Alexis T. Harvey, W. G. Hays, Charles A. Hegney, D. G. Hodges, George Hoeffle, Thomas B. Holloman, Samuel M. Houston, John H. Howell, Charles W. Hoyer, Albert C. Hulett, Frank A. Hulett, J. T. Iglehart, Thomas M. Jackson, J. S. Jenkins, William H. Johnson, J. E. Jones, Watson E. Jones, William N. Jones, John Kamper, John E. Kennedy, H. Sidney King, Mark M. Klein, Charles Kramer, P. J. Krouse, John T. Land, Austin E. Ledyard, Robert K. Lee, John K. Logan, T. C. Lyle, Edwin M. Martin, W. K. Mashburn, Percy L. Marsh, Walter Meeds, J. N. Melton, Henry G. Meyer, Charles B. Middlebrook, C. C. Miller, Edwin A. Miller, John G. Minniece, James F. Moore, Joshua F. Moore, John Watson Moore, C. W. Morgan, B. J. Morrison, James E. Morrison, Samuel C. Mosley, J. M. McBeath, Allan G. McCants, Butler McClanahan, J. W. McCorkle, Charles T. McCormick, William Edward McCormick, B. McDade, William McNeill, Alexander D. McRaven, William L. Owsley, William T. Perry, John T. Pigford, David L. Ragland, W. B. Rogers, Charles M. Rubush, J. H. Rush, Charles W. Schamber, S. A. Scruggs, George F. Sherwood, James H. Short, Henry C. Smith, C. A. Stovall, A. T. Stuckey, John L. Stutz, R. H. Suttle, J. R. Tackett, E. E. Taylor, H. Thornton, William H. Towns, J. A. Treadaway, James J.

VanHoose, Rocket H. VanHoose, T. L. Wainwright, R. W. Wallace, Edward W. Walsh, William A. Warner, John B. Watts, James William Wheeler, Samuel E. Wilson, Thomas H. Wright, R. J. Wright, William R. Wright, Conway C. Wyatt.—Total 171.

KNIGHTED.—John S. Adams, Henry N. Brown, James M. Burrage, Charles D. Christian, Jr., James M. Cole, I. W. Cooper, Josiah C. Cowin, William L. Daniels, Robert M. Dixon, F. L. Eatman, E. L. Faucette, James A. Gallaspy, William Lee Gallaspy, S. R. Gibbons, Robert Golden, George F. Haynes, Charles A. Hegney, H. Sidney King, John T. Land, W. D. McRaven, W. T. Perry, B. B. Pierce, John T. Pigford, D. L. Ragland, Charles H. Schuch, William J. Smith, William A. Strong, Charles H. Row, William H. Towns, Walter L. Wilson, Ira Williamson.

SUSPENDED N. P. D.—John B. Watts.

DIMITTED.—T. A. Baucum, James M. Cole, I. W. Cooper, James M. Burrage, Edward L. Faucette, William Lee Gallaspy, S. R. Gibbons, George F. Haynes, A. L. Hoyer, Clarence R. Hoyer, Horace W. Hoyer, H. C. Majure, J. C. McClinton, W. D. McRaven, Charles H. Row, J. H. Stoltzfus, P. C., Charles H. Schuch, William A. Strong, Joseph O. Walton, Floyd Willis, Walter L. Wilson, Ira Williamson, W. A. Webster.

DIED.—Pierce A. Crook, September 13, 1906; Charles P. Lewis, March 25, 1906; Irvin Miller, March 20, 1906; Hugh McNeill, October 11, 1906.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—E. A. Archer, T. K. Barefield, R. A. Collins, S. J. Downs, D. U. Wadsworth.

DELTA COMMANDERY, No. 16.—GREENVILLE, WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second Monday in each month.

Emmett N. Thomas.....Com.	John B. Scruggs.....Treasurer
C. H. West.....Gen'l.	Charles A. Kinkead.....Recorder
J. P. Bailey.....C. G.	W. H. McClain.....St. Bearer
W. T. Steger.....S. W.	A. K. Burnett.....Sw. Bearer
E. G. Ham.....J. W.	A. B. Nance.....Warder
Robert Somerville.....Prelate.	M. O. Shivers.....Sentinel

MEMBERS.—G. W. Acree, S. Archer, J. H. Baker, J. F. Barnes, C. N. Bell, William C. Boyd, S. C. Buel, W. H. Chandler, W. S. Clack, A. C. Coxe, Hy Crittenden, J. L. Davis, A. H. Davis, J. E. Dumas, J. D. Duncan, W. B. Faison, J. P. Finlay, L. H. Gaines, Allen Gary, J. T. Green, W. P. Gresham, W. L. Hillhouse, G. W. Hull, G. M. Hutsell, W. G. Jaquess, S. Y. Kerr, T. P. McMahon, C. H. Millirons, C. C. Moody, S. J. Mulvaney, E. P. Odeneal, A. W. Oliver, A. G. Payne, J. A. Richardson, A. J. Rose, W. B. Roberts, A. H. Scott, A. R. P. Scott, R. P. Walt, E. T. Wilkinson, S. F. Witherspoon.—Total 51.

KNIGHTED.—E. J. Acree, J. F. Barnes, W. H. Chandler, Hy Crittenden, A. H. Davis, J. E. Dumas, L. H. Gaines, Allen Gary, W. L. Hillhouse, George M. Hull, T. P. McMahon, A. G. Payne, R. P. Walt, E. T. Wilkinson, S. F. Witherspoon.

DIMITTED.—S. F. Davis.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—C. H. Rock, J. C. Moorhead.

DEMOLAY COMMANDERY, No. 8.—COLUMBUS, LOWNDES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Fourth Friday night in each month.

C. Lee Lincoln.....Com.	Robert S. Curry.....Treasurer
Blanchard A. Weaver.....Gen'o.	Henry M. Waddell.....Recorder
Thomas B. Franklin.....C. G.	Walter Weaver.....St. Bearer
Willis Banks.....S. W.	James B. Thames .....Sw. Bearer
Charles C. Buder.....J. W.	Percy W. Maer.....Warder
Hampden Osborne.....Prelate.	D. Stewart McClanahan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—James T. Harrison, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—John D. Askew, J. Sanders Billups, C. E. Boykin, Robert A. Carson, J. Walter Cooper, N. L. Davis, James M. Easton, Malcolm A. Franklin, J. Warren Gardner, Thomas W. Harris, James P. Martin, Robert C. McClanahan, Charles W. Mills, Edward S. Moore, William D. Powell, Willis N. Puckett, D. Dupree Richards, Nathaniel J. Rodgers, James P. Stansel, W. A. Stepp, Joseph H. Stephens, William H. Taylor, William E. Waring, William W. Westmoreland.—Total 37.

EDWARDS COMMANDERY, No. 26.—HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Third Tuesday in each month.

Archibald McCallum.....Com.	Edward Marsh.....Treasurer
James P. Foster, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	Thomas P. Martin, P.E.C.....Recorder
Walter R. Ward.....C. G.	H. Percy Birdsong.....St. Bearer
Samuel D. Hewes.....S. W.	William A. Dromgool.....Sw. Bearer
Alonzo J. Lewis, Jr.....J. W.	Daniel M. Chichester.....Warder
Charles P. Colmery.....Prelate.	Jacob Arni.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George S. Hunter, William A. Montgomery.

MEMBERS.—Thomas H. Barrett, Mason Birdsong, James T. Bovill, Knight M. Brough, Joseph W. Campbell, William M. Carstophen, Thomas Arthur Chichester, Nathaniel Flanagan, Calvin W. Gable, Charles E. Heitman, John L. Johnson Jr., Harry M. Klingman, Clifton F. Mattis, Wallace E. McDougald, George C. McLaurin, George C. McLaurin, Jr., Robert L. Peyton, John M. Rauch, William M. Robb, T. Franklin Smith, Sydney E. Thomas.—Total, 35.

KNIGHTED.—James T. Bovill, George C. McLaurin, Jr.

GREENWOOD COMMANDERY, No. 24.—GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY.

(No Return.)

HATTIESBURG COMMANDERY, No. 21.—HATTIESBURG PERRY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second Tuesday in each month.

Thomas A. McElreath.....Com.	T. S. Jackson.....Treasurer
A. A. Montague.....Gen'o.	J. W. Montague.....Recorder
John R. Tully.....C. G.	J. E. Hedrick.....St. Bearer
G. P. Smith.....S. W.	A. F. Potter.....Sw. Bearer
Charles L. Schuch.....J. W.	George W. Batson.....Warder
Frank W. Queen.....Prelate.	M. M. Sexton.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—J. P. Carter, Samuel J. Pettigrew.

MEMBERS.—H. E. Allen, George O. Begg, A. C. Benners, J. O. Bolton, H. W. Boyd, J. D. Buchannan, John B. Buskett, A. E. Carmichael, J. M. Carter, S. P. Carter, R. N. Collins, Walter M. Conner, Oscar W. Conner, E. E. Conner, R. S. Cottongin, S. E. Cowan, B. D. Currie, T. M. Curtis, G. M. Dennis, R. L. Dent, J. D. Donald, W. A. Dozier, E. R. DuMont, M. Dunn, S. C. Eaton, R. S. Ellis, E. M. Ellis, M. J. Epley, T. M. Ferguson, Frank M. Foote, S. T. Garroway, I. L. Gaston, D. M. Gatlin, E. L. Gilliam, H. C. Greer, Walter Green, Joseph S. Haney, James W. Harper, J. M. Harrison, Lee P. Hoskins, W. P. Haynes, Arthur V. Hayes, Robert H. Hemphill, R. W. Hinton, Sr., R. W. Hinton, Jr., A. S. Hinton, James W. Howell, W. H. Huntsberger, B. F. Jones, J. H. Kennedy, H. G. Lea, J. R. Mason, H. G. McCormick, J. M. McInnis, H. L. McKinnon, E. M. Middleton, Oscar L. Mitchell, J. B. Newton, M. G. Norton, T. L. Odonell, W. B. Perry, F. F. Phillips, J. A. Prestige, T. W. Reeves, M. S. Reeves, C. L. Rice, T. E. Ross, W. F. Rumble, Victor M. Scanlon, J. D. Smith, W. B. Smith, C. Z. Stevens, C. O. Stevens, A. E. Thomasson, S. E. Travis, T. O. Watkins, F. W. Wells, J. F. Wildon.—Total, 91.

ADMITTED.—W. B. Perry, Charles H. Schuch, T. O. Watkins.

KNIGHTED.—George W. Batson, George O. Begg, John B. Burkett, S. P. Carter, E. E. Conner, M. J. Epley, Frank W. Foote, Joseph S. Haney, J. M. Harrison, J. E. Hedrick, A. S. Hinton, R. W. Hinton, Jr., Lee P. Hoskins, W. H. Huntsberger, T. S. Jackson, E. M. Middleton, H. L. McKennon, J. B. Newton, F. F. Phillips, A. F. Potter, Frank W. Queen, M. S. Reeves, T. W. Reeves, W. F. Rumble, M. M. Sexton, W. B. Smith, John R. Tully, F. W. Wells.

SUSPENDED N. P. D., REINSTATED—B. F. Jones.

DMITTED.—V. E. Hartzog.

DIED.—Hugh Malcolm McCallum, April 2, 1906.

DISFRANCHISED N. P. D.—A. H. McSwain.

HOLLY SPRINGS COMMANDERY, No. 4.—HOLLY SPRINGS, MARSHALL COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Fourth Monday in each month.

Lester G. Fant.....Com.	Wm. B. Bradbury, P.E.C....Treasurer
Robert A. McWilliams.....Gen'o.	Langston B. Mosby, P.E.C....Recorder
Martin H. Leach, P.E.C.....C. G.	Arthur E. Graham.....St. Bearer
Edward Clyde Wright.....S. W.	D. M. Featherston, P.E.C....Sw. Bearer
P. E. Irby.....J. W.	Paul E. Calme.....Warder
.....Prelate.	Henry W. Bryant.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George C. Myers, D.G.C., Charles H. Wright.

MEMBERS.—J. H. Alexander L. Bondurant, Clarence S. Cullens, George F. Cullens, Harry Lee Dix, Thomas F. Gaines, R. H. B. Gladney, Thomas L. Grace, Wilburn U. Hampton, William S. Hill, Tate Holland, John E. Holmes, Stanhope A. Logan, William A. McDonald, George B. Mitchell, Newton J. Parker, Milford H. Rogers, J. L. S. Rogers, James L. Simpson, William M. Ticer, James L. Wilson, W. C. Wooten.—Total, 35.

KNIGHTED.—Thomas L. Grace, George B. Mitchell, J. L. S. Rogers.

DIED.—James Warren Stephenson, January 5, 1907.

DISFRANCHISED.—James P. Alvis, Thomas L. Bennett, David F. Co-ward, Thomas P. Willis.

IVANHOE COMMANDERY, No. 10.—OKOLONA, CHICKASAW COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, First and Third Thursday in each month.

Thomas M. Walton, P.E.C.....Com.	Z. T. Harper.....Treasurer
James Gordon.....Gen'o.	N. A. Love.....Recorder
John S. Cobb, P.G.C. & P.E.C.....C.G.	T. J. Keeney.....St. Bearer
Harry Arden.....S. W.	R. M. Sadler.....Sw. Bearer
Frank M. Elliott.....J. W.	W. I. Harrell.....Warder
John M. Davis.....Prelate.	Ward Dawson.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—William A. Bodenhamer, P.G.C., Frank P. Burkett, P.G.C., W. M. Buchanan, E. M. Walker.

MEMBERS.—B. S. Allen, G. W. Anglin, J. L. Arnold, T. W. Boggan, C. W. Bolton, W. D. Brown, J. N. Buchanan, W. J. Collow, R. N. Chandler, George G. Dillard, J. M. Dodds, C. B. Evans, C. F. Faulkner, L. C. Teemster, B. B. Fitzpatrick, W. D. Frazee, W. H. Griffin, L. P. Haley, T. J. Harris, C. S. Harrell, J. F. Harrell, J. G. Haughton, E. P. Hawkins, J. F. Hodges, Henry R. Hodges, C. B. Hood, J. D. Hunter, A. W. Johnson, V. C. Kincannon, C. R. King, J. R. Moore, W. C. Peeler, L. S. Pitts, H. I. Randolph, J. M. Reed, W. F. Riley, J. Q. Robbins, G. L. Russell, J. D. Sansom, T. R. Shrimsher, H. B. Stacey, W. G. Stovall, R. L. Tatum, J. M. Thomas, W. S. Thompson, J. A. Thompson, W. W. Trice, O. J. Trice, J. M. Walker, C. G. Walton, W. X. Wilson, J. R. Williams, T. A. Williams, T. H. Williams, V. Wright.—Total, 71.

SUSPENDED N. P. D.—T. R. Shrimsher.*

DIED.—Phineas Messenger Savery, P.G.C., December 20, 1906.

*—Error last year.

LEXINGTON COMMANDERY, No. 3.—LEXINGTON, HOLMES COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second and Fourth Tuesday in each month.

W. Lonnie Jordan.....Com.	Peter A. Lindholm.....Treasurer
Walter P. Tackett, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	Walter K. Durden.....Recorder
Thomas W. Smith, P.E.C.....C. G.	Hillery E. White.....St. Bearer
Charles C. Pahlen.....S. W.	John L. Dyson.....Sw. Bearer
Robert A. Stigler, P.E.C.....J. W.	William W. Wilburn.....Warder
R. Cunliffe McBee.....Prelate.	Ernest W. Jordan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Cassius Oltenburg, Sidney M. Smith.

MEMBERS.—Earl V. Ashley, Samuel D. Bailey, Robert H. Baker, Thomas L. Barbour, John Belford, J. Thadeus Buck, H. Edward Buck, Henry Christmas, Robert P. Clack, Samuel M. Cox, James B. Cunningham, Benjamin H. Dameron, Roy C. Elmore, James H. Fuqua, Jr., Ered-eric M. Glass, David H. Hobbs, Frederick F. Holmes, James M. Jones, J. Walter Jordan, Thomas J. Jordan, Benjamin William Lipsey, Augustus Loftstrom, Mark Love, Ross Love, William M. Meek, Archibald W. McNeal, John P. Nabors, George F. Nixon, Edward F. Noel, Marquard J. Peters, William I. Pickens, Isaac B. Pinkens, A. Crawford Reid, Bruce C. Seitzler, Charles C. Swinney, Randolph A. Tucker, Joseph H. Watson, Henry W. Watson, Parham Williams, Thomas J. Wyatt.—Total, 54.

ADMITTED.—Robert P. Clack, Marquard J. Peters.

KNIGHTED.—John P. Nabors, Randolph A. Tucker.

DIED.—Walter M. Anderson, February 17, 1906 ; Henry S. Hooker, July 23, 1906.

MACON COMMANDERY, No. 25.—MACON, NOXUBEE COUNTY.

(No Return.)

MAGNOLIA COMMANDERY, No. 2.—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, First Thursday in each month.

Robert B. Chapman.....Com.	George B. Hackett.....Treasurer
Frederic P. Fox.....Gen'o.	James K. Moore.....Recorder
Harry R. Austin.....C. G.	Emile Bonelli.....St. Bearer
William A. Stanton.....S. W.	William O. Menger.....Sw. Bearer
Frederic Speed, P.G.C.....J. W.	George W. Crock.....Warder
Charles W. Hinton.....Prelate.	Linton R. Pinkston.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—John D. Miles, H.P.G.C., James J. Hayes, P.G.C., Edward C. Carroll, William G. Kiger, Edward M. Moore.

MEMBERS.—James P. Anderson, Albert A. Arnold, Herbert S. Bigler, George K. Birchett, Richard K. Boney, Henry W. Bowen, Charles J. Bradley, James H. Brittain, John C. Bryson, John W. Clarke, Jr., Howard A. Covington, William Curphey, Henry P. Davis, Conway C. Flowerree, Charles E. Gore, B. Whitfield Griffith, George C. Harris, Patrick Henry, James M. Hickman, Andrew J. Hood, Spencer S. Hudson, Alfred L. Jaquith, George M. Klein, William Balfour Klein, William W. Lord, James J. Lum, John W. Mann, Chester R. McFarland, William J. McKie, William Murray, Charles Pare, John Parkhurst*, Alexander M. Taxton, Miller R. Payne, John C. Pritchett, Albert G. Russell, Murray F. Smith, John T. Smith, William Stanton, John T. Wells, J. C. White, J. W. Woodruff, Charles G. Wright.—Total, 60.

KNIGHTED.—Herbert S. Bigler,

DISFRANCHISED.—Charles H. Fife, William B. Schlottman,

* Insane.

MARY SAVERY COMMANDERY, No. 14.—CORINTH, ALCORN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Fourth Friday night in each month.

John Howard Collier.....Com.	James W. Zachary.....Treasurer
Traverse A. Read, P.E.C.....Gen'o.	James P. Collier, P.E.C.....Recorder
Thomas B. Weaver.....C. G.	Arthur L. Johnsey.....St. Bearer
Russell M. Weaver, P.E.C.....S. W.	Roy L. Young.....Sw. Bearer
A. Kenneth Weaver.....J. W.	James M. Dickey.....Warder
Martin G. Milligan.....Prelate.	Clarence W. McCord, Jr.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Shelby H. Curlee, Waln W. Fitzgerald, Charles M. Taylor.

MEMBERS.—Morris B. Abby, Robert T. Adams, George H. Beemer, Henry E. Blakeslee, William H. Blythe, Samuel D. Bramlett, Mark T. Bynum, James R. P. Cameron, Thomas W. Cogdell, Austin Crouch, John

B. Davis, W. S. Ennis, George Farris, James H. Felts, J. W. Giddens, James R. Huff, Mark Kershaw, Phillip Kilpatrick, William J. Lamb, John W. McAnulty, M. G. Milligan, S. B. Myers, Robert E. Nisbet, Levi M. Phillips, Williams H. Robinson, M. D. Ross, E. P. Simmons, William E. Small, Hal S. Spraggins, Ernest F. Waits, Homer E. Walker, Edward W. Walton, Herbert N. Young.—Total, 47.

KNIGHTED.—James H. Felts, Martin G. Milligan.

MISSISSIPPI COMMANDERY, No. 1,—JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Third Monday in each month.

A. P. Lusk.....Com.	W. W. Lake.....Treasurer
Thomas P. Sparks.....Gen'o.	William J. Brown, P.E.C.....Recorder
J. H. Ferrell.....C. G.	J. J. Payne.....St. Bearer
W. B. Taylor, P.E.C.....S. W.	John A. Webb, P.E.C.....Sw. Bearer
B. J. Smith.....J. W.	George B. Power, P.E.C.....Warder
D. Eugene Adkisson, P.E.C.....Prelate.	George F. Swann.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Robert H. Henry, P.G.C., John A. B. Jones, P.G.C., George Lemon, J. J. White, Joseph W. Power, M. Whitehead, Nolan Stewart, W. F. Wilcox.

MEMBERS.—J. S. Allen, L. H. Applegate, J. T. B. Berry, John W. Birdsong, Alford E. Bourgeois, H. M. Carter, A. C. Crowder, George R. Edwards, W. J. Ferguson, Thomas B. Graham, Felix E. Gunter, J. M. Hartfield, Robert H. Henry, Jr., Edward B. Lewis, F. C. Lotterhos, William P. Lowry, Gerald G. Lyell, H. M. Quinn, R. V. Rachford, C. D. Smith, J. M. Stingley, G. V. Toms, Henry L. Whitfield, William T. Williams, Ralph C. Wilson.—Total, 45.

ADMITTED.—H. M. Quinn, B. J. Smith.

KNIGHTED.—J. S. Allen, H. M. Carter, J. H. Ferrell, Felix E. Gunter, Ralph E. Wilson.

DIMITTED.—J. J. Haralson, J. F. Robinson.

DIED.—Richard Griffith, February 2, 1906.

ROSALIE COMMANDERY, No. 5.—NATCHEZ, ADAMS COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Fourth Thursday in each month.

William G. Benbrook, P.G.C.....Com.	Rufus F. Learned.....Treasurer
Edward M. Ranck.....Gen'o.	Charles F. Merrick.....Recorder
Seaborn McDowell.....C. G.	W. Calvin Brown.....St. Bearer
Andrew B. Learned.....S. W.	Matthew A. Tyer.....Sw. Bearer
William N. McLean.....J. W.	William L. Wells, P.E.C.....Warder
Enoch George DeLap, P.G.C. Prelate.	Thomas J. Murden.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Charles T. Chamberlain, Frank S. Shaw, Gustave J. Bahin, John A. Dicks, Melchior Beltzhoover, John Foggo Dixon, P.G.C., James C. French, P.G.C., Louis A. Benoist, William C. Hathcox.

MEMBERS.—J. Oscar Bailey, Samuel D. Baker, James H. Beard, George M. Brown, James A. Clinton, Lemuel P. Conner, James S. Flemming, Allison H. Foster, Edmund B. Geddes, Edward S. Guess, Jessie B.

Guice, James A. Harrington, James F. Hill, Samuel P. Hornsby, William J. Kaiser, C. Henry Keim, Herbert L. Klapp, Bernard H. Knox, George W. Koontz, Louis R. Martin, Louis F. Muller, Henry McDermott, Andrew B. McElwee, Clarence E. McLain, Stephen D. McNair, R. Lee Parker, Josiah B. Perry, Edward H. Prince, Edward H. Ratcliff, William H. Ratcliff, John A. Redhead, Lee A. Robinson, Walter Rutherford, Edmund Sadler; James Sessions, Richard D. Sessions, Virgil H. Sharp, Joseph L. Sidenspinner, Lennie T. Spraggins, Hasen Steadman, Henry N. Street, Isaac L. Toler, Henry L. Turley, Gustave A. Wettlin, Andrew B. Westmoreland, Frank E. Wilson, Moyse H. Wilkinson.—Total, 68.

KNIGHTED.—James H. Beard, Edward S. Guess, Andrew B. Learned, Edward H. Ratcliff, Richard D. Sessions, Virgil H. Sharp, Lennie T. Spraggins.

DIED.—William C. Dobyns, January 26, 1906; Landry S. Ducote, December 28, 1905; Robert M. McGee, July 6, 1906; William B. Irvine, P.C., February 22, 1906.

ST. CYR COMMANDERY, No. 6.—WATER VALLEY, YALOBUSHA COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second Thursday in each month.

Robert W. Hellums, P.E.C.....Com.	Joel Croom, P.E.C.....Treasurer
George J. Robertson.....Gen'o.	C. E. Romberger, P.E.C.....Recorder
Samuel B. Brown, P.E.C.....C. G.	Charles T. Robinson.....St. Bearer
John H. Wagner.....S. W.	William B. Wagner.....Sw. Bearer
Frank B. DeShon.....J. W.	B. Frank Tatum.....Warder
Garland D. Brown, P.E.C.....Prelate.	Daniel W. McMillan.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDER.—Henry M. Romberger, P.G.C.

MEMBERS.—W. H. Askew, A. H. Bays, J. V. Blackmer, I. T. Blount, W. C. Blount, D. L. Boon, Earl L. Brewer, R. Frank Cathey, S. R. Cain, H. H. Creekmore, Edward F. Crisp, William S. Cook, James M. Crocker, J. E. Daniels, L. W. Dekle, John E. DeLoach, E. Dunstan, H. A. English, George W. Fields, B. B. Ford, L. T. Fox, Harry Gibbons, A. C. Green, A. P. Gunthrop, D. H. Hallowell, O. H. Haws, Eugene L. Howry, J. S. Hudson, M. W. Jackson, William James, A. E. Jennings, Frank H. Jones, Alexander Kennedy, John L. Kirby, J. S. Kittle, J. J. Landreth, J. W. Lee, J. M. Leverette, W. Scott Metcalf, M. A. Montgomery, W. E. Moring, D. Frank Newell, L. L. Owens, E. M. Page, James B. Rogers, J. N. Rose, J. E. Rovira, J. L. Sanders, Thomas U. Sisson, Frank H. Smith, A. T. Smith, Frank S. Stewart, B. A. Talbert, J. B. Talbert, B. F. Thomas, W. B. Vankirk, Daniel R. Wagner, William L. Waldron, William Ward, W. H. Watkins, Homer Weir, R. J. West, W. H. Whittaker, William C. Winter, W. O. Wood, John Wright, Edwin Wright.—Total, 80.

KNIGHTED.—James M. Crocker, Eugene L. Howry, D. Frank Newell, L. L. Owens, J. L. Sanders, R. J. West.

DIMITTED.—Charles H. Campbell.

DIED.—Thomas J. Binford, May 17, 1906; William H. Price, P.E.C., March 31, 1906; J. Louis Sisk, June 11, 1906, D. D. Wilkins, March 21, 1906.

DISFRANCHISED.—Robert C. Leland, Frank W. Weatherly.

ST. ELMO COMMANDERY, No. 18.—BROOKHAVEN, LINCOLN COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Second Friday in each month.

John H. Seavey, P.E.C.....	Com.	Ernest A. Wentworth.....	Treasurer
Louis L. Magee.....	Gen'o.	Lonnie P. Kees.....	Recorder
Frederic Obersmidth.....	C. G.	Percy M. Buie.....	St. Bearer
Charles E. Grafton, P.E.C.....	S. W.	Ernest J. Parsons.....	Sw. Bearer
Frank F. Parsons.....	J. W.	S. Bertram McNair.....	Warder
Willard H. Seavey, P.E.C.....	relate.	Zebulon P. Jones.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—George C. Hoskins, Eugene McCormick, William F. Parsons.

MEMBERS.—J. B. Alford, Robert C. Applewhite, David J. Bachelder, Larkin H. Baggett, C. Ernest Batty, Samuel W. Berry, Isom V. Bowman, Lee O. Bridewell, Charles E. Broomfield, Ralph B. Butterfield, William W. Butterfield, Stanley T. Byrd, Charles L. Carrol, James A. Carrol, James W. Causey, John D. Cull, Josiah B. Dougherty, Frederick L. Davidson, Z. Duncan Davis, W. T. Denman, A. W. Dent, W. E. Doggett, Charles E. Dunbar, D. C. Easley, E. Ham Easterling, Duncan L. Easterling, J. Wesley Elliott, Daniel D. Ewing, E. Shelby Fairman, Frank H. Fellows, Anthony Fly, C. Monroe Furlow, Joseph Tucker Gibson, William Gleason, Nicholas Greener, Marsh Hainer, Charles F. Heuck, Samuel W. Hoskins, W. H. Jackson, J. W. Johnson, David E. Kelly, Frank M. Lee, F. E. Long, G. Wood Magee, H. Elliott Magee, Felix A. May, John M. Maynor, Ira Moak, Samuel D. Moak, W. Ernest Montgomery, Thomas A. Moore, Alford E. Moreton, Hardy F. Mulliken, W. L. McConico, J. Archibald McCormick, W. Cam McCormick, L. W. McDaniel, George W. Park, Ira L. Parsons, John B. Prestidge, Frank Railsback, Clement V. Ratcliff, William O. Rey, W. W. Robertson, Mansom L. Ryals, W. H. Smith, Monroe Smith, Robert B. Stamps, Allen Y. Steiger, George H. Thompson, Oscar H. Thosson, Oscar F. Thorson, Harry A. Tibbs, Thomas Warring, Leigh Watkins, Benjamin Williams, Samuel Williamson Halbert Winborn, J. Merideth Wood.—Total, 94,

KNIGHTED.—Charles E. Broomfield, Percy M. Buie, Ralph D. Butterfield, William W. Butterfield, James A. Carrol, James W. Causey, A. W. Dent, D. C. Easley, E. Shelby Fairman, C. Monroe Furlow, Joseph Tucker Gibson, Marsh Hainer, Lonnie P. Kees, Daniel E. Kelley, Louis L. Magee, G. Wood Magee, Ira Moak, Samuel D. Moak, Thomas A. Moore, S. Bertram McNair, Frederic Obersmidth, Ernest J. Parsons, Frank F. Parsons, John B. Prestidge, Clement V. Ratcliff, Allen Y. Steiger, W. H. Smith, Monroe Smith, Oscar H. Thorsson, Oscar F. Thorsson, George H. Thomson, Thomas Warring.

SUSPENDED N. P. D. REINSTATED.—Lee O. Bridewell, John D. Cull, J. Archibald McCormick, W. Cam McCormick, Frank Railsback.

DMITTED.—T. O. Watkins.

DISFRANCHISED.—H. R. Fine.

THE COAST COMMANDERY, No. 19.—BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Third Thursday in each month.

Walter G. Grayson.....	Com.	George W. Grayson.....	Treasurer
S. E. Boyleston.....	Gen'o.	Henry J. Meant.....	Recorder
Harry A. Jackson.....	C. G.	George A. Thomas.....	St. Bearer
James J. Lemon P.E.C.....	S. W.	W. L. Denham.....	Sw. Bearer
Harry T. Howard, P.G.C.....	J. W.	Lewis R. Bowen, P.E.C.....	Warder
Henry W. Vanhook.....	Prelate.	Hermogene V. Lizana.....	Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—Thomas H. Gleason, E. Ernest Clement, John C. Bradford, Thomas J. Rosell.

MEMBERS.—O. L. Bailey, Edgar S. Balthrope, Walter T. Bolton, George R. Burton, John Carraway, W. E. Clarke, J. G. Cohoe, Reubin M. Davis, Calvin Dees, William K. M. Dukate, Theodore P. Dunion, Charles Falck, John M. Flurry, J. G. Foster, James G. Galloway, Joseph B. Garrard, William Gorenflo, John L. Hall, J. R. Hill, Charles D. Lancaster, A. D. Madison, L. M. Martin, William A. Murphy, James H. Neville, R. W. Shipp, Joseph A. Tabor, J. L. Taylor, Joseph W. Thomas, A. L. Thornton, Henry W. Van Hook, Charles W. Wachenfeld, Thomas H. Warren, William H. Westfall, J. W. Westfall, Walter A. White, Peter Yurgensen.—Total, 51.

KNIGHTED.—S. D. Boylston, W. E. Clarke, J. G. Cohoe, Reubin M. Davis, Calvin Dees, John M. Flurry, J. G. Foster, George W. Grayson, J. R. Hill, Harry A. Jackson, Hermogene V. Lizana, A. D. Madison, L. M. Martin, R. W. Shipp, George A. Thomas, Joseph W. Thomas, William H. Westfall, J. W. Westfall, Peter Yurgensen.

DISFRANCHISED.—Nathan C. Hill, William B. Lindsey, Collins Phelps.

WEST POINT COMMANDERY, No. 20.—WEST POINT, CLAY COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, First Monday in each Month.

J. N. Powers.....Com.	J. R. Brinker.....Treasurer
Eduard Joiner.....Gen'o.	D. A. Meek.....Recorder
Charles S. Joiner.....C. G.	H. A. Limberger.....St. Bearer
David Cottrell.....S. W.	Robert McGrath.....Sw. Bearer
H. C. Campbell.....J. W.	Wiley S. Keyes.....Warder
J. L. Greenwell.....Prelate.	B. Y. Rhodes.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—R. M. Trotter, William Johnson.

MEMBERS.—A. M. Augustine, J. K. Ballard, O. C. Brothers, Jr., Charles Bridges, J. R. Brinker, W. H. Carlisle, M. W. Chapman, Frank A. Critz, Ellis Cromwell, G. P. Davis, Sidney A. Deans, Arthur Dugan, Henry Dugan, J. T. Dunn, A. N. Eshman, T. J. Evans, F. C. Exum, Jr., C. L. Foster, A. F. Fox, L. T. Gaines, J. W. Heard, J. C. Hurburt, J. W. McKee, J. L. Mill, Clyde Monk, J. H. Moore, F. H. Powers, A. W. Reynold, W. S. Rhyne, S. E. F. Rose, J. H. Smith, John Stegall, J. J. Stevens, Ray Stevens, B. W. Stewart, W. L. West, Arthur Whittam, C. L. Wood.—Total, 52.

KNIGHTED.—G. P. Davis, Willis S. Keyes, Clyde Monk, John Stegall, Ray Stevens.

DIED.—H. Clay Barksdale, December 26, 1906.

YAZOO COMMANDERY, No. 23.—YAZOO CITY, YAZOO COUNTY.

Regular Conclaves, Fourth Tuesday in each month.

A. B. Kelly.....Com.	Robert H. Douthat.....Treasurer
W. Augustus Scott.....Gen'o.	M. Leith Stigler.....Recorder
Robert C. Lynn.....C. G.	Henry M. Cadenhead.....St. Bearer
William M. Moore.....S. W.	Charles F. Johnson.....Sw. Bearer
Hugh W. McCormick.....J. W.	William Morford.....Warder
J. Burnett Ellis.....Prelate.	Edward E. Harmon.....Sentinel

PAST COMMANDERS.—P. Burrus Powell, John S. Hord, James S. Perrin.

MEMBERS.—Samuel R. Berry, R. L. Berkhead, James H. Blanchard, Frank H. Blundell, Lee Boyd, A. B. Brooks, W. A. Brown, Jr., W. L. Brown, Thomas H. Campbell, Jr., T. F. Davis, W. G. Deles, Horton Frizzell, Joseph W. George, Allen M. Hicks, Charles B. Holmes, J. Clifton Hollingsworth, J. E. Hutchins, Jr., Eugene J. Johnson, W. B. Lewis, Clifton Livingston, Joseph W. Lockett, Jr., Edward H. Luke, M. Neihysel, William D. Pugh, Joseph D. Roberts, Daniel H. Shipp, William T. Shirley, J. F. Slaughter, Robert H. Sorrells, Earl Stubblefield, Henry Y. Swayze, H. Dickson Swayze, John B. Taylor, Robert Torrey, L. E. Vanderveere, John Sharp Williams.—Total 51.

ADMITTED.—T. F. Davis, M. Neihysel.

KNIGHTED.—R. L. Birkhead, J. E. Hutchins, Jr., Charles F. Johnson, J. F. Slaughter, L. E. Vanderveere.

DIMITTED.—Bradford K. Bell.

DIED.—Samuel S. Shipp, January 18, 1906.

REPORT ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO THE GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MISSISSIPPI:

PROLOGUE TO REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

This is the third prologue I have constructed to the annexed report. Neither of the first two suited me and I fear they failed to suit the redoubtable Fred, but he dared not say anything. I am disposed to be as peaceable as a lamb, generally, but there are some things that rouse my ire to such an extent that it has to find an outlet somewhere, or "bust the biler," and having nothing else handy to use for an escape pipe, I thought that it might liven things up a little if I used the prologue for that purpose.

I have some things on my mind, that some one ought to say about some matters, but upon second thought I have concluded that it would be just as well to let some other fellow say them. If I could be conservative, soft and gentle in handling snakes, I would have gotten up a lot of namby pamby remarks upon a subject that there is but one way to handle, and that is with a gun in each hand and a rope as a reserve. Perhaps it is a public misfortune that I was not built with butter in my mouth, but as I was not, and must either shut up altogether or tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me one shilling, I have lost a golden opportunity to pitch in and make the fur fly and take the hide along with it—hence I have immolated myself upon the altar of peace—which means that I have lost a chance to say something of interest by reforming this prologue—you may all guess what I am mad about, and if you have the wit to see it you can do your own cussing, but not in Fred's hearing or he will—come back at you—Selah!

I have never been partial to any of the titles given these reports, such as "Committee on Foreign Correspondence," "Fraternal Correspondence," and such as that, for the reason that the work is not in the nature of "Correspondence," in the usual acceptance of that term, which makes it sound odd and out of place. However, as Denham defines the word thus: "Intercourse; Reciprocal intelligence," and as that seems to cover the ground, we will not register a kick on that subject.

This work has dragged along over a period of nine months, as we have reviewed the pamphlets as fast as they came to us, and it is not surprising that we are really glad that the work is done, for the current term.

Both the Order and the Country, at large, seem to be in an exceptionally prosperous and healthy condition. There is a possibility that the politicians and negrophobists of the country, by making the "man and

brother" think that he is a larger element in the economy of creation, than he really is, or as the Creator intended he should be, may result in some trouble, the burden and bulk of which, however, will fall upon the shoulders and head of that same "brother in black." In the end the negroes and their friends (†) who are such "for revenue only," will wake up and find that this is a white man's country, as some others will also discover that it is a "Christian Country" and is going to be run along the lines of Christian civilization. Some people do not have sense enough to know when they are well off and don't discover it until it is brought to their attention by processes that may not be altogether pleasant.

Quite a number of the Grand Commanders, judging by their addresses, are of the opinion that each and every member of the Order is a regular, little, one horse angel and that the salvation of the world and the triumph of the Gospel of Christ, are largely dependent on the Order of the Temple and Malta! This is one of the greatest mistakes possible for one to make, but they will keep on hugging the delusion, until they circulate more among the rank and file. It is all right to think the best of everybody, but sometimes it is very straining. With these few remarks, we proceed to look after the Alabamians:

ALABAMA—1906.

The Forty-sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Gadsden, May 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir Robert S. Teague, Grand Commander; E. Sir George A. Beauchamp, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers; Representatives from twelve out of nineteen chartered and two U. D. Subordinate Commanderies; nine chartered Commanderies being absent from "Roll Call," also eight Grand Representatives, not including our's. No Past Grand Commanders reported as present, by the Credentials Committee.

The opening was preceded by a short address of welcome, by Brother McMullen, and he piled it on rather heavy, along all lines touched upon. It was a mighty pretty little speech and a credit to its author. Gadsden is so situated that a tornado has no chance to hit it and is up so high that the people are healthy and these facts are touched upon and the place compared with the "New Jerusalem" that St. John saw, while on the isle of Patmos. So long as he omitted the word "hospitality" and all reference to the early Templars and Peter, the Hermit's ragamuffins, he has our permission to blow his trumpet about his own town and the lovely women and girls of Alabama until he gets black in the face, as these are legitimate matters to talk about, but the others are chestnutty and won't be worth a cent.

The Grand Commander's address is a brief resume of a successful, but uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of a startling or seditious character. He notes in appropriate terms, the recent dreadful visitation of earthquake and fire in San Francisco and the outpouring of food and cash for the help of those upon whom the calamity fell. There

is a great many good people in this world and it is not so remarkable that they succor the needy and bind up the wounds of the afflicted, whenever these offices are necessary. It is pleasant to not feel lonesome along here, like Elijah did when Jezabel was after him, and when he thought he was the only one in all Israel that feared God. The Lord kindly informed him that he had made something of a mistake, as there were more than "seven thousand" people in Israel that had not bowed the knee to Baal, so Elijah felt better and concluded that things were not as bad as they seemed, and it is likely that when the clouds roll by it will be found that they might have been worse in San Francisco than they really were. However, they were bad enough.

He issued eight dispensations, all being for the purpose of taking passengers on the "Fast Mail," all of which was the correct thing to do. He also granted two dispensations for new commanderies, one at Union Springs and one at Sylacauga. We wish both a successful career. He likewise appointed a Committee to purchase a hotel in Saratoga Springs, N. Y., for use as headquarters at the Triennial next year. His portrait adorns the pamphlet; we speak advisedly, as he is good looking and has a pleasant face.

The proceedings were of the usual routine character. The treasury seems to be in good shape, as it contains, after appropriations for the current year, \$1,461.53, the major part of which will, doubtless, be blown in at Saratoga, next summer! Total membership, 743, a gain of 122, which is pretty good.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This is the cream of the cocoa nut, covers nearly forty-nine pages of the pamphlet, digests, in an able and interesting style, the proceedings of forty-three Templar Grands, and is the work of our good friend and brother, John Herbert Phillips. Our brother is a pleasant writer, uses elegant English, says what he thinks and is a good judge of polite literature, when he sees it, as his attention to our report abundantly proves. It is possible that this sort of evidence may not be entirely satisfactory to you, sitting as a jury, but that "cuts no ice." He devotes two pages to our proceedings at Brookhaven, and among other things, discovers G. C. Dixon's joke in his reference to the great and only "Fred," remarking: "Then follows the rather complicated compliment; 'As a Grand Recorder he has no equals and few superiors!'" It is in order for us to congratulate our good brother, John Herbert on his perspicacity, as he is the only one that we have seen, so far, who discovered the absurdity of the passage. The author of it put it in that way, for the sole purpose of ascertaining how many members of the Grand Commandery would "catch on" with the result that not one in the crowd discovered the discrepancy, hence the joke fell flat. There were no Englishmen present. Had there been, they would, in the traditional thirty days which it takes them to see a joke, have discovered it and had their laugh out two months ago. We fear the American people are degenerating along these lines, and we regret it.

There are lots and lots of them that would not know a joke if they met it on the street, mores the pity.

We copy his review of our remarkably able and exhaustive report, which shows that he is, in the main, a man of understanding and good judgment:

The Report on Correspondence is by Sir Enoch George De Lap, who manages to extract a deal of wholesome amusement from the solmen proceedings he reviews. He professes to have been much sobered by the presence of the "Yellow Scourge," which had a tendency to "obscure the scintillations of fun and frolic." If this report was written in the presence of "Yellow Jack," we should like to see Brother De Lap in his normal state of mind. In his introduction to his report he says: "It is possible that there have been reports of this character written that surpass this one, but we are inclined to doubt it." Modesty is his one weakness. He should entertain no doubt whatever with regard to so simple a proposition. As a matter of fact, it is by all odds, the spiciest and most entertaining report we have read. His report is not only interesting but profitable reading; if he had eliminated that non-sensical controversy with Brother Babb of Iowa about the negro, his report would be ideal. Brother De Lap's theology mixed with Mississippi science and a tincture of "Vardamanism" is a mighty unwholesome decoction for a Templar feast. Science has long since consigned your missing link theory to the fate of Haeckel's *Pithecanthropus Erectus*. Pray, cut it out Brother De Lap--it is not "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, or for instruction in righteousness."

We regret to see the indications of mental weakness in his reference to our response to Brother Babb, of Iowa, in regard to the origin and spiritual status of the "Brother in black," as we consider this part of our report as being about the best of the whole, as it permanently settles certain questions that have bothered the brain and fuddled the intellect of some of our brightest theologians. Now, as the questions are settled they can devote a little of their time to preaching the Gospel, which would be nice.

We beg to suggest to Herbert, that Haeckel's "*Pithecanthropus*," "or words to that effect," has nothing to do with the main question, which is: Is there nigger blood in his veins or in mine? If the nigger is a descendant of Adam, there is; if he is not, there is not and there you have it all in a nut shell. We deny that he is, Herbert thinks he thinks that he is. Neither climate, environment and the thousand and one other things incident to human life can or does change the structural formation of either man or beast, to the extent that obtains in the case in point. The smell is not so much in evidence along here, as that might result from filthy living and habits or the torridity of the climate, besides there are some white people that stink, both physically and morally. We would be glad if this was different, but the fact remains.

As there are lots of you fellows who are unacquainted with *Pithecanthropus Erectus*, (as we were until quite recently) we introduce him to you, "*Pithecanthropus Erectus* is the name given to the fossil remains of a prehistoric animal found in Java and which represents a form intermediate between man and the higher ape." (Encyclopedia).

No doubt Darwin knew all about this ugly cuss, and it is strange that he failed to ring him in as "the missing link," as we would have done if we wished to complete a contract such a he had in hand, so there must be something wanting somewhere. At all events, old "Pithe" does not interfere with our creed, in the least degree.

We clip a part of Brother Herbert's Conclusion:

We have completed our round of visits to our sister jurisdictions. In imagination we have traveled thousands of miles, and have formed many delightful acquaintances and many warm attachments. Through the medium of the printed page we have listened to many an inspiring voice and have clothed many a choice spirit with ideal form and presence. Many widely separated asylum scenes have been provided with local coloring and invested with the halo of peace and the joy of brotherhood. We have participated in the pleasures of many banquet tables, tramped in many a gay procession and mingled with hundreds of brave knights and fair ladies in a score of receptions. We have also stood uncovered at the bier and sorrowed at the grave of many a valiant Sir Knight who had fallen at the post of duty on life's battlefield.

A Templar reviewer with a moderate amount of sentiment, sensibility and imagination, has an opportunity for a wide range of experience.

We leave our Alabama brethren with regret, but it is time to quit.

R. E. Sir Thomas H. Mattocks is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

ARIZONA—1905.

The Thirteenth Annual Conclave was held in the town of Flagstaff, November 15th. There were present: R. E. Sir Owen Thomas Rouse, Grand Commander; E. Sir James George Roskrige, Grand Recorder. Five of the staff were absent. There were, also, five Past Grand Commanders and one Past Grand Generalissimo, eleven Grand Representatives and Delegates from three Subordinate Commanderies, with a considerable sprinkling of Past Commanders.

The Grand Commander's address is very brief, but doubtless contained all he had to say, so we are not disposed to complain. We clip from his "opening chorus":

I congratulate you in having the privilege of meeting within the gates of this beautiful little city among the pines, at an altitude over seven thousand feet above the ceaseless waves of the sea, and where your cheeks are fanned by the zephyrs from yonder mountain, whose summit is crowned with perpetual snow. This is indeed an ideal spot for Fraters to meet and commune one with the other. When you have finished the labors of this Conclave, doubtless you will all return to your homes with the satisfaction of knowing that it was good to have been here.

If our Arizona brethren are at all like lots of our's, they were nearer Heaven when seven thousand feet above the sea, than they are likely to be again, unless they do some climbing.

He made but one decision, which was that where a companion had been rejected in a Commandery, and afterwards removed to the jurisdiction of another one, or rather his residence while formerly within the jurisdiction of the rejecting Commandery, but since by the organization of a new Commandery is now in the jurisdiction of the latter, that the new Commandery could entertain his petition at the expiration of the six months.

We may be in error, but as that is something that seldom occurs, it is not at all likely that we are, but if we are not, it strikes us that at least a year must elapse before a rejected petition can be renewed in any Commandery, and three years before it can be received by any other than the rejecting Commandery. However, it doesn't much matter, so we pass the subject. We find nothing further in the address that would be of interest to you.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$1,089.98; total membership 245, a gain of 49.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Covers about seventy pages, and is the work of our Brother Morford. It is a good report.

His attention to our doings at Jaxson is full and fraternal, in the main.

He gives Brother Burkett a well deserved dig in the ribs, in the following brief but touching sentence: "Which is all right, except that the Order of the Temple is not an 'ism' it is the Order of the Temple." We made some sage remarks on this same subject, a year or two ago, but every once in a while some provincial will bob up with the word "Templarism" concealed about his person and shoot off on an unsuspecting audience! Frank ought to be ashamed of himself, if he is not. He has this to say of the indomitable Fred:

Grand Recorder Sir Frederic Speed in his Report rips the Grand Encampment down the back and up the front with the rusty old state's rights claymore because the Grand Encampment did not make law of something he believed important. It is interesting to note how closely his ideas in the premises and the practices of his Grand Commander have run.

He tersely states some facts, however, in connection with the San Francisco Conclave, for instance: "As a grand pageant and social reunion of the Templars of the land it was an unqualified success, but as a legislative body the result was disappointing." * * *

Quoting some more of Fred's wise deliverances, he says:

"He then pointed out the disjointed provisions for the collection of dues, one statute making the penalty 'disfranchisement' and another 'suspension,' and both attempting to get to the same point. He might have noted that in one instance the statutes seem to make two years the limit of delinquency and in another instance the limit appears to be a matter of the will of the Commandery."

His notice of our report is full and pleasant, although we deny the hair-splitting allegation and defy the alligator! We copy his conclusion, which is good:

Our table is once more clear of those silent but impressive volumes that are the story of one phrase of the life of a great cause as it reaches out to the hearts of men from beneath the panoply of war that covers a peace most profound, most glorious, that peace which the immortal soul finds within the shadows of the Cross.

Each of those volumes tell of something achieved within the purview of the body whose history, whose actions, it relates. Some have wrought more, some less, but all have wrought mightily in their influence upon men, and perhaps greatest upon men and society at large that might not be counted with those who bear the sword and buckler in the cause of the Great Captain of our salvation.

If the cause of the Temple is not effecting civilized society beyond its ramparts by ensample, for greater good, for nobler purposes, for higher ideals, it were better those ramparts be razed and that the Sir Knights march forth and be engulfed by the great waves of humanity that surge about the citadel of their strength. But that will never happen. Each of these volumes reviewed has told the story of a devotion that cannot be confined in its effort to any small portion of the human race; they proclaim that among the Knights of the Temple the sentiment of "Each for all and all for One" prevails and will prevail till all are one throughout the nations of the earth.

R. E. George W. Vickers is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

ARKANSAS—1906.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Little Rock, May 15th. Present: R. E. Sir S. P. Collins, Grand Commander; E. Sir Fay Hempstead, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, seven Past Grand Commanders, sixteen Grand Representatives, including Brother Jackson for Mississippi and eight Representatives from Subordinate Commanderies. The last number on the roll of Subordinates is seventeen, so that if none of them are defunct less than half were represented, which is a bad state of things. We attribute it to their failure to have a Correspondence report. You can't raise a child, properly, on toys, gimcracks, triennial shows and such as that. If you do he won't amount to shucks, and the rule applies to novices of the Temple and Shrine.

The Grand Commander's address is quite voluminous, but the bulk of it is made up of Inspectors' reports, which are not as intensely interesting as are some of the stories in the "Arabian Nights." He reported the death of Past Grand Commander, B. F. Atkinson, who went to Colorado in search of health and found—Death. Peace to his ashes and the consolations of the religion of our Lord to the bereaved. He granted the usual batch of dispensations and for the same old purposes. No decisions. He also told them not to forget that the Triennial Blow-out would be

pulled off in Saratoga, next Summer, and suggested that they make the needful preparations to cut a swell, in response to which a committee was raised and a hotel will be purchased for occupancy on that, to some people, all important occasion. He closes with the customary expressions of gratitude for the honor conferred upon him, all of which is labor lost and, in many cases, perfunctory.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. The pamphlet is illustrated with pictures of the home of Brother Albert Pike, at Little Rock, the Grand Commandery of Arkansaw in the parade at San Francisco, a poor picture, and a portrait of the incoming Grand Commander, R. E. Sir Peter Brickey.

Treasury balance, to the good, \$2572.61, but a great deal of that will be blown in at Saratoga, next year. More's the pity. Total membership, eight hundred and fifty-seven, a gain of forty-five.

No report on Correspondence, which shows that our Arkansaw Brethren are long on buncombe and short on Literature. We may have made this remark before, but if so that don't count. You can't have too much of a good thing.

R. E. Sir Peter Brickey is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

CONNECTICUT—1906.

The Seventy-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of New Haven, March, 20th, 1906. There were present: R. E. Sir Samuel J. Bryant Grand Comander; R. E. Sir Eli C. Birdsey, Grand Recorder; seventeen Past Grand Commanders, twenty-nine Grand Representatives, a lot of Past Commanders and Representatives from eleven Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is an interesting, well-written and perfect epitome of a successful and creditable administration. We excerpt his opening chorus:

In reality, as well as retrospect, twelve months is a brief period of time, to record the events of which, requires alertness. The ready pen is no longer adequate; the skilled stenographer can only give what the lawyer's brief is in relation to facts. The reader must be able to supply what detailed statement fails to give, from knowledge and imagination, the same as the learned judge, even if he looks at the brief submitted. It is good to step aside from this rush and swirl for a moment, and rest and refresh ourselves by means of loyal and fraternal greetings and deliberate conference. It will be true to-day, as always, that in unselfish consideration of another's good, we will best serve ourselves.

“What are years, though flying ne'er so fast?

A year's a day if full of gladsome zest!

But who shall measure time, when hopes are past?

A day's a year if sorrow is the guest.”

Just beyond the range of mortal vision is the “bourne from which no traveller has returned.”

Further along he quotes some rather impertinent remarks made by the Tennessee Correspondent in regard to the observance of "Good Friday" by St. Elmo Commandery No. 9, stationed at Meriden. It seems that it is the annual custom, in that Commandery, to observe the day, one feature of the exercises being a banquet. To the "banquet" the Brother from Tennessee demurs. We quote a part of the remarks on both sides:

Promptly at four-thirty o'clock, exercises in the asylum were closed, and we repaired to the parlors of the Winthrop, where we found a large company of women who, under the guidance of Eli, had just returned from a carriage ride in Hubbard Park. Shortly after five o'clock over two hundred of Sir Knights and most charming women sat down at tables for refreshment. It is just at this point that some of our benighted fraters of other jurisdictions stumble and assume to be shocked. As, for instance, this from one of our Correspondents:

"Think of that! In the land of steady habits. A body of Christian Knights assembled to celebrate the anniversary of the crucifixion of their Lord with a banquet! Tempted to do so by "a conspiracy of ladies," that they might enjoy "a social hour" in commemoration of the agonies of the cross! And such an outre performance specially approved and commended by a Grand Commander, with the wish expressed that this sacrilege may long continue. Has good old Connecticut lost all consciousness of the eternal fitness of things? Have our Christian fraters forgotten the faith and adjured the creed? Or has some worse calamity befallen them? Do they expect more charitable judgment from Christendom than is granted old Adam for his excuse, "The woman gave me and I did eat?" Surely, none of these things can be. Our Connecticut fraters are only suffering temporary aberration. They will some day hear the voice of their Grand Prelate calling them away from this unholy banquet, and will recognize that Good Friday is a day appointed to fasting and prayer! On such a day "it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting." To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance." Let us, Christian Knights, observe the seasons and respect the customs of the Christian world."

The same Correspondent, whose scathing rebuke we take in a humble spirit, because he says "excuse," we must and can only by saying:

"Forgive them for they know not what they do."

The Apostle to the Gentiles, who certainly ought to have been well posted on the subject of "Holy Days," did not consider them as matters of very much import, as the following seems to indicate: "One man esteemeth one day above another; another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." We infer from this that this sort of thing did not cut any great figure, either in the dissemination of the Gospel or the welfare of the Church, and, if this be true, the simple matter of how they should be observed, if at all, is of still less moment. It is too much the tendency of the modern Christian to rely on the observance of forms and ceremonies and the observance of Holy Days, to the neglect of the weightier matter of a pure heart and

a Holy life. The situation is graphically described in the old hymn, from which we excerpt a couple of verses, as being pertinent along here:

"I see the perfect law requires,
Truth in our inward parts,
Our full consent our whole desire,
Our undivided hearts.

But I of means have made my boast,
Of means an idol made,
The spirit in the letter lost,
The substance in the shade.

Where am I now? What is my hope?
What can my weakness do?
Jesus, to Thee my soul looks up,
Tis Thou must make it new!"

It is proper to remark, in this place, that there is no warrant, in the New Testament Scriptures, that has the semblance of a command, for the observance of any day as Holy except the Sabbath, hence the observance or non-observance of them, is simply a matter of choice, and the manner is still less important. We are satisfied that our good Brother over in Tennessee was actuated by the best possible motives in pitching into the wooden-nut-meggers for their seeming (to him) irreverence, but he should do as we do, investigate, carefully, before drawing his sword and, having satisfied himself that discipline is necessary, wade in, "and damned be he who cries, Hold! Enough!"

That is the proper way to do things, as we have found, by actual experience and trial.

We are not partial, either, to the observance of movable feasts or Holy Days. The Sabbath and Christmas are fixed days and the religious observance of the former is demanded of all the race by God Himself, but in our day Good Friday and Easter cut a much wider path than does the day on which The Master rose from the dead and completed the "Plan of Salvation." Had we the same reverence for Good Friday that Brother Ingersoll appears to feel, we would be compelled to agree with his idea of the impropriety of the St. Elmo celebration. Formal banquets, toasts and such, are at first glance, singularly out of place on a funeral occasion, but not nearly so much so as it is for people to celebrate the birth of our Lord by getting drunk.

Adopting the suggestion of the Apostle, we are fully persuaded, in our own mind, that there is but one really Holy Day and that is the Sabbath, or Sunday, hence we are not particularly interested in the controversy between Connecticut and Brother Ingersoll, and will dismiss the subject by quoting that celebrated remark of General Grant: "Let us have peas, for dinner."

He issued but few dispensations, but none of them on the subject of "Rapid Transit." His decisions were unimportant, but correct, as the law stands.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Grand Treasurer reports a balance of \$704.58 cash on hand. He also reports a deposit of \$1,703.04 in one Savings Bank, and \$1,000 in another, but we are in doubt as to whether these deposits are to be included in the cash on hand, or not. Total membership, 3324 a gain of, we do not know how much, and can't tell without figuring, and that is what our Brother Eli ought to have done.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our good friend, Hugh Stirling is the author of the report, which is short, sharp and decisive. It covers only thirty-five pages, but notes the doings of forty-six Grand Commanderies, Mississippi at Jaxson, getting over a page of flattering and courteous attention, for which we are obliged. We note that the intelligent compositor, the proof reader, or the devil, have played havoc with our Brother's punctuation, as the following clipping will prove:

"The Grand Recorder, Frederic Speed makes some wholesale comments on the statute regarding the dues question and the time candidates have before their election is annulled. We believe these questions might with safety be left to the Grand Commander to regulate. Sir Knight Speed prepared the report of committee on Necrology and it is needless to say to say it was well done as all his work of this character that is has been our good fortune to read. Bro. De Lap starts off his report with a prologue which he says is at the request of 'our Fred.' We are glad Fred made the suggestion because it contains comments on the Ritual of the Red Cross which agree with our views on that subject. His report is of course good and makes interesting reading. He hammers away at things he thinks are wrong or where they are done for show as for instance attending service in full uniform. His review of our proceedings are for 1904 the address of Grand Commander Hubbard, he says is an elegant paper sublime in thought and beautiful in its teachings and quotes liberally from same. He has a kind word for our report and pays us a compliment in so doing, which of course we appreciate, for although we do this service, (as we have many others in this thirty-five years we have been a member,) for the great love and regard for the institution still it is a comfort to receive a word of praise at times from those whose judgment we respect and in whose sincerity there can be no question. His conclusion is good and we make room for it, and I hope our good brother will be spared to write many more."

We have read too many of Brother Hugh's reports to believe that he would put two distinct sentences into one, just to save putting in a period or a capital, hence the charge against the two miscreants named in the indictment. Fred reads our "proof" and does the best he can, but it is not unusual for him to fall off the Xmas tree and do the disreputable. We would appreciate his efforts more if he would only acknowledge his errors, when he makes them, and ask our pardon. But he won't do it! Of course not! Unlike us it is not impossible for him to make mistakes, and when a man does this, he ought to own up, and at once.

We are obliged to Brother Hugh for his kindly endorsement of our report. It also indicates that he is a man of discernment and knows when he sees a good thing.

We copy his "Conclusion, in which we find some more of the uncanny performances of the I. C. and the P. R. Death is preferable to dishonor! Let them be immediately hung.

The result of the labors of your committee on Correspondence is presented for your consideration and we hope it may be read with approval. The Templar organizations of the country are generally prosperous, the gain in membership during the last two decades has been remarkable and the same rate of increase seems to be assured for the future. The amount of good an organization of this kind does cannot be measured, that its teachings and influences are all for the uplifting of its members must be admitted and we know personally where its beautiful ritual and ceremonials have caused men to be better for having passed through these ceremonies and listened to the admonitions contained in the ritual, would that we could keep in mind at all times these teachings, then the unkind word would not be spoken in a brothers' absence, if at all, the petty jealousies and animosities would find no place in our hearts, our criticisms of one another would be less severe and we would all be happier.

R. E. Sir Farron S. Betts, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Reporter as before.

COLORADO—1906.

The Thirty-first Annual Conclave was held in the City of Denver, September, 21st. There were present: R. E. Sir Arthur E. Jones, Grand Commander; Sir Charles H. Jacobson, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, twenty-four Grand Representatives, not including "the gentleman from Mississippi," a lot of Past Commanders and Delegates from twenty-eight out of the twenty-nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The M. E., the Grand Master, was represented by our good friend, Past Grand Commander, Harper M. Orahoad, who was asked to preside, but declined. Afterwards, however, he made a nice little speech. Those useful, (?) if not ornamental appendages, the Grand Representatives, then took their innings with Sir Greenleaf at the bat, who knocked one right over the heads of the short stop and center fielder, in the following chaste and elegant style:

On behalf of my fellow Representatives, I desire to express to you our deep appreciation of the cordial welcome that you have extended to us and the friendly interest you have manifested in the welfare and progress of the Grand Commanderies which we have the honor to represent. We come from the North, from the South, from the East, and from the West, bearing the glad tidings from the scattered camps and the division headquarters of the gallant hosts of Templarism. We come to report that the battle against the lying deceits and vanities of the world still rages; yet we still continue to present an unbroken front. Never was there a time when there was occasion for greater vigilance; the spirit of commercialism in appalling measure seems to sap the foundation of society; our old enemy, the lying deceits and vanities of the world, was never more active. Look without—the battle is still on. The searchlight of investigation

makes startling revelations. How have the mighty fallen. What idols have been shattered. What rottenness, what corruption, what betrayal of trust laid bare.

Our place is still in the forefront of the world's battlefield, warring against deceit and fraud, and for honesty, integrity, clean lives and true manhood.

Let us then first conquer our own weaknesses and remedy the defects in our "armour of righteousness," and then go forth to strive for the betterment and the uplifting of humanity, animated and sustained by our motto: "Truth is mighty and will prevail," go forth conquering and to conquer.

One would suppose that the speaker intended to convey the idea that he and his companions, i. e., the Grand Representatives, were doing some tall fighting against the lying vanities of the world, that they were having a pretty tough time, but still "held the fort with an unbroken front!" The spirit of commercialism and other kindred evils have kept them busy, but they claim to have smashed some idols and bid fair to save the country!! After this statement of the actual exploits of this branch of the official family, it will no longer be in order to say that these adjuncts are more ornamental than useful. Well, scarcely! We had felt considerable anxiety about the outcome of all the devilment that has been in evidence in the world, in recent times and now, but we are satisfied if the forty or forty-five Grand Representatives undertake to regulate matters and correct existing evils, that there is no cause for worry and we are glad. Representing, as we do, the Empire State, where most of that "appalling commercialism" has been carried on, in conjunction with New Jersey, it is possible that we should have taken a more active hand in the crusade spoken of, than we have done, but as the catechism in nearly, if not all the Churches, has been changed so as to read: "What is the chief end of man?" instead of: "To glorify God, etc.," "to get money, and in all your gettings, get cash, or good paper," we thought we might as well let things run. However, if Brother Greenleaf needs a Commander-in-Chief, or a Quartermaster, we will accept the place, if tendered at once.

The Grand Commander then read his address, which is a short, but well written resume of a creditable, but uneventful administration.

He pays proper, because deserved, tribute to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, among them being Past Deputy Grand Commander, Albert H. Branch, who passed to his eternal home on December 6th, 1905, and Past Grand Commander, Julius Bidwell Bissell, who died March 13th, 1906.

Peace to their ashes and may God deal gently with their loved ones left behind.

Seven of his subordinates and one hundred and sixty Knights were pious on Easter, four Commanderies were also pious on Ascension day, one of the number holding their services in the Asylum, the correct thing to do, in our opinion.

He granted five dispensations, but only one to ballot on the jump, and only on one candidate.

PROCEEDINGS

were routine and of local interest. Grand Treasury balance, to the good, \$4,281.10. Total membership, 2,047, a net gain of 56. Now if you figure a little, by deducting that 160 who went to church on Easter Sunday, from the total membership of 2,047, you will find that 1,887 stayed away, which shows a large majority of the brethren need a little stirring up, religiously, an old fashioned revival in fact.

Their "Triennial Fund" contained a balance on the right side of \$1,536.16, which will all be spent, probably, at Saratoga, next July.

CORRESPONDENCE

Covers seventy-five pages reviews the minutes of forty-six Templar Grands, and is, as usual, the work of our old friend, Past Grand Commander Orahood. Like the others, from the same distinguished source, the report is full of instruction, being made up of clippings from the action of the different bodies reviewed, but there is a paucity of original matter in it that is very reprehensible.

We have often remonstrated with our Brother about this matter, but it seems to do no good and we have quit. His attention to our doings at Jackson, giving us two pages made up of clippings from Brother Burkitt's address, Fred's report and our fulminations, but all without comment. We clip a part of his "Conclusion:"

It is with a feeling of relief and pleasure we complete and submit this, our twenty-sixth Annual Report on Correspondence. The work has been of the pleasantest character, but has taken a great deal of time and close attention, as every Correspondent knows.

We found in all the voluminous reports read and examined no unkind comment or complaint. The conditions prevailing in the Templar world, as shown by former reports, continue. All the addresses of Grand Commanders, reports of Committees, and especially the reports on Correspondence, show peace and harmony prevailing, and an unprecedented increase in membership, with general prosperity. Truly, we have abundant reason for thankfulness to a kind, overruling Providence for the manifest blessings bestowed on us.

In our report we have omitted all reference to matters of Necrology and reports of Committees on this subject, leaving this to the appropriate Committee.

We have given more attention than usual to reports on Masonic Homes. This subject is most appropriate for consideration by the Grand Lodge, although we, as Templars, are very much interested. Our Grand Lodge has established a permanent fund, the income from which is used for relief and the same general purpose for which Masonic Homes are established and maintained. In our present financial condition we feel sure this plan is better for us and our needy ones than to try to maintain a home.

We have given many references to official visits because we believe there is nothing a Grand Commander and other Officers can do which is so productive of good to the Order as these visits. They stimulate and encourage the Commanderies as nothing else can, and animate and encourage the Officers making the visits.

To all our co-workers we send kindest greeting and best wishes, and thank them for kindness shown and forbearance for errors and mistakes on our part.

R. E. Darius A Barton, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

CALIFORNIA—1906.

The Forty-eighth Annual Conclave was held in Mission Masonic Temple, July 17th. Present: R. E. Sir John B. DeJarnatt, Grand Commander; R. E. William A. Davies, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Standard Bearer, ten Past Grand Commanders, sundry Grand Representatives and Delegates from thirty-five chartered Commanderies.

The Grand Commander opens an elegant address as follows:

SIR KNIGHTS:—In this world of surprises, in all the changing views of the panorama of life, perhaps the most startling event in the experience of the members of this Grand Commandery, was the shock that fell upon San Francisco and vicinity on the never to be forgotten morning of April 18, 1906. Many of you had left your business homes for attendance upon the Forty-eighth Annual Conclave of this Grand Body and awaited the sound of the Assembly ordered for ten o'clock of the following morning. Others were in attendance upon the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons—grand bodies at the time in session, when on that fateful morning, with no thought of danger "the bolt fell." The evidence of Supreme power was manifest on every hand, and dear old San Francisco, with its walls and palaces, was as a "reed shaken by the wind." After four days and three nights that have no parallel outside of Dante's Inferno, our beautiful city, the American metropolis of the Golden Gate, was a mass of glowing embers fast resolving into heaps and winrows of grey ashes, emblematic of devastation and death.

Where on the morning of April 18, 1906, stood a city of magnificent splendor, wealthier and more prosperous than Tyre and Sidon of antiquity enriched by the mines of Ophir, there lay but a scene of desolation. The proud and beautiful city had been shorn of its manifold glories, its palaces and vast commercial emporiums leveled to the earth, and its wide area of homes, where dwelt a happy and prosperous people lay prostrate in their ashes.

The morning of April 19th, the time for the assembling of our regular Annual Conclave, found a ruined Temple, a city in flames, and members residing without the city, filled with anxiety for the safety of families and friends at home. The conditions were such that in the judgment of your Grand Commander, it was neither practical nor proper for the Grand Body to attempt the transaction of business in its then excited and feverish state; and without any attempt to evade a responsibility, I issued, as soon as practicable, General Orders No. Four, with my reason for deferring the assembling of the Grand Commandery until normal conditions were restored.

It is needless for us to say that our hearts go out in love and sympathy for all of them.

He reports aggregate Templar contributions for the relief of our California brethren, of \$45,805.50, from all sources, including \$1,000.00 from the Great Priory of England.

He made quite a number of decisions, of which we quote two, they being of general interest.

"A member of Sacramento Commandery, No. 2, applied for affiliation with Golden Gate. His petition was received at the Stated Assembly of February 20th, 1905, was duly advertised in our March Bulletin to be balloted on at the Stated Assembly, March 6, 1905.

"Before the ballot was taken an objection was made and in consideration thereof and also in view of the fact that the Eminent Commander desired to get a decision on the matter, he postponed the ballot to the Stated Assembly of March 20, 1905. At said Stated Assembly a ballot was taken, which proved to be clear, but in consideration of the objection not being removed, the Eminent Commander declared the applicant rejected, which of course, so appears on the minutes of the Commandery.

"A division of opinion exists among the members of Golden Gate, and in order that our Proceedings may be right and just, I respectfully ask, under existing conditions, is the Sir Knight entitled to sign our By-laws and become a member of Golden Gate Commandery?

"Further, should an objection be raised to his signing the By-laws, should such objection be sustained or overruled by the Commander-elect?"

To this I replied:—

1. Confirming a recent opinion of Past Grand Commander Pierce, that "objection before ballot is equivalent to an unfavorable report," which under Templar Law, as I understand it, cannot stop a ballot on a petition of this character, I am of opinion that your Commander erred in declaring the candidate for affiliation rejected, in the face of a clear ballot. His decision is therefore reversed, and he is hereby directed to declare the candidate elected and to order the minutes corrected accordingly.

2. Should objection then be raised to his signing the By-laws the Eminent Commander will overrule the same.

If the objector has sufficient grounds, Secs. 3, 4 and 5, Title 37 Stat., Grand Encampment, will indicate his method of procedure.

FROM NEVADA COMMANDERY NO. 6.

"A petition for the Orders of Knighthood was received July 7, 1904, the same was referred to the usual committee, and on July 21st, said committee reported favorably, and upon the ballot being spread he was declared elected. Some time before the Order of the Red Cross was conferred, objection to his receiving it was made to the Eminent Commander, and on October 6th, the Eminent Commander stated that objection had been made and declared him rejected.

"On September 7, 1905, the candidate again petitioned for the Orders. The said petition was referred as usual, and on September 21st the committee reported favorably and he was declared elected and on the same evening was duly constituted a Companion of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

"Thereafter, objections were made that the Eminent Commander had no right to confer the Order of the Red Cross upon the candidate, as the former objection had never been withdrawn. I shall not confer the Order of the Temple upon him until I hear from you.

"When he was formerly declared rejected, I took it that that was equivalent to a black ball, and have acted accordingly.

"Is there any regulation requiring the Recorder of a Commandery to notify each Sir Knight of the presentation of every petition for the Orders?"

To which I replied:

Sec. 3, Title 37 Stat. Grand Encampment provides as follows:

"No member of a Commandery, whether present when the ballot was taken or not, shall prevent or delay the conferring the Order of the Temple upon any Companion of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross by a mere objection; but every candidate once elected to receive the Orders of any Commandery, and who shall have been duly constituted a Companion of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, shall be entitled to the Order of the Temple unless found unworthy after trial on charges duly presented.

"This section, however, shall not apply unless a notice of the Conclave at which the candidate was elected to receive the Orders, shall have been sent to the objector, containing the information that the candidate's name would, at that time, be presented for ballot."

Section four (same Title), reads as follows:

"The objector (except as provided in Section three) in order to prevent or delay the conferring the Order of the Temple on any such elected candidate who shall have been constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross, shall be required to prefer written charges against him, which shall be filed with the Recorder of the Commandery.

"The said candidate shall be entitled to receive a copy of the charges so presented, and to be heard by counsel—the counsel being a Knight Templar—in his defense at an open trial."

If the objector was not served with the notice required as hereinabove sent out, I am of the opinion that the objections still hold good, and therefore, in the absence of their withdrawal by the objector, decide that you are not authorized to advance the candidate, except as provided by the law above quoted.

Since writing the above, I have received the official notification of the death of Grand Commander B. P. Flint, which sad event occurred on the 11th November ulto. He was elected and installed in July and held the office but four months, a trifle less than that time. His portrait makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet, and his look of robust health gave no indication of his early summons to that upper and better country. Peace to his ashes and consolation to his loved ones left behind, and to our brethren of the Golden State. How true it is that "In the midst of life we are in death" and how important it is for us to be always ready for the final summons. "What I say unto you, therefore, I say unto all, WATCH!"

The address, as a whole, is an admirable paper. The proceedings were short and confined to local matters. Treasury balance, to the good, \$9,862.70; total membership, 5,501, a gain of 253.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is, also, a short one, because our good Brother Davies had to write it over, the original having been destroyed by the earthquake and the fire that followed. What there is of it is, necessarily, good, coming from the source it does. To make things clear, we excerpt his opening:

The undersigned submits herewith his Report on Correspondence for the year ending with the opening of the Forty-eighth Annual Conclave, the time for which this report is supposed to have been written.

Unexpected happenings have interfered with the carrying out of the usual program and the intentions of your Correspondent.

Suffice it to say, that the report was written, but for reasons over which we had no control was destroyed. The present is a substitute for that report, and although by no means a perfect paper, its very imperfections have caused the undersigned much tribulation, and he is heartily glad to be rid of it.

From a casual review of the work we note the absence of the Jurisdictions of Indian Territory, South Dakota, Virginia and Washington.

We apologize to our friends in those bailiwicks, with the words forgive us, we could not help it.

His attention to our doings at Brookhaven, though brief, are courteous and kind. We copy:

"The transaction of the business routine were not abundant, so that there was plenty of room for that splendid report on Necrology by our Frederic Speed, in which that Eminent Mason dropped a sprig of acacia "upon the last resting place of beloved brethren, companions, fraters and friends."

Of us he says: "The Report on Correspondence is by one who, in the discharge of his duty, never hesitates to say what he thinks, although it may be at the sacrifice of a fortune; but Enoch George DeLap wields a pen far mightier than any 'trusty claymore' in the field, at present writing." He then copies our "epilogue" in full, which shows that he detects a good thing when he sees it. We are obliged for the bit of taffy he gives us, but it doesn't make us vain. We also appropriate his "Conclusion:"

For the unusual delay in the issuance of this report no excuse is offered at this time. The paper is rewritten and refers generally to matters of record before the grand "shake up" which enveloped our headquarters and temporarily suspended our organization by the destruction of our Tabernacle with its jewels and its furniture, its altars and clothing.

In its portrait gallery were suspended the portraits painted by a celebrated artist of the entire official roster of Grand Officers of Grand Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery from the forming and opening of the Grand Lodge in 1850.

Valuable relics of our Masonic history ascended in the smoke of the fire which followed, and can never be replaced; yet as our Right Eminent Grand Commander said in his address, "through the goodness and mercy of the Great Ruler of events" the official roster of the Grand Commandery was preserved from the deadly touch of the winged Messenger.

Our Fraters of Sister Jurisdictions have come to our aid and assistance with a willing generosity that would transform an ordinary affliction into a veiled blessing. Our books have been replaced and reopened, new working tools procured and we have commenced "mending our fences."

Several months will probably elapse before we are thoroughly rehabilitated; meanwhile with a Merry Christmas, a toast to the Grand Master

and a Happy New Year to Brethren, Companions and Fraters of every Jurisdiction in the Masonic world.

R. E. Sir Charles Lord Field is the Acting Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

CANADA—1906.

The Twenty-third Annual Assembly was held in the city of Montreal, August 9th. Present: M. E. Sir John B. Tresidder, Supreme Grand Master, on the Throne; M. E. Sir Will H. Whyte, Grand Chancellor, most of the other Grand Officers, a lot of Provincial Priors, and Representatives from thirty-five Preceptories.

The Grand Master's address is a typical Canadian paper, that is, it is a fine one. It is confined, however, to matters of local interest. He issued quite a long list of dispensations, many of them to attend divine service in uniform, on Easter, Good Friday and Ascension days. We note the fine Italian hand of the "Intelligent Compositor" in the orthography of the word "install" in which he uses but one "l," possibly to save time and expense of printing. Requests for permission to open new bodies were received from three different localities, two of which were "turned down" and the granting of the third contingent on certain things. He reports the "Institution" of three new Preceptories. He visited quite a number of his Subordinates, from which, no doubt, good resulted. The address is much shorter than these documents usually are in "The Dominion," but this is a good fault, if fault it be.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were of the usual routine character and confined, mostly, to matters of local import.

The Grand Treasury contained a balance on the right side of \$7,112.24. Total membership 3,781, a net increase of 458. From the report of the Committee on the Grand Master's address we excerpt what follows:

The appropriate words of welcome addressed by the Supreme Grand Master to our visitors from the United States are the just expressions of good will to them and to the people of the great nation to which they belong. Political divisions and differences serve their purposes in our citizenship, but as members of a great society, with high moral aims, we know of no divisions, and our object is to cherish our brethren as brethren, no matter under what flag they live or from what land they come.

All this is as it should ever be. We also clip the following, from the same report:

Sovereign Great Priory cannot fail to approve of the faithful, excellent and hearty manner in which the Supreme Grand Master has discharged the many duties of his high office. There is both negative and

positive evidence that the Order in Canada is well governed. The negative evidence may be found in the fact that there is before our Committee on Grievances and Appeals nothing requiring action by them. The positive evidence is in the increase in membership, in the prosperity which abounds, in the harmony which prevails; and while we appreciate all the Grand Master has done to bring about this result, and has done so well, yet with him we recognize the power and the blessing of the ever-ruling Providence, in whose hands is the earth and the fullness thereof, and who doeth all things well not for Himself and for His glory alone, but for the welfare and the happiness of mankind.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is again the finished and perfect work of our good Brother, Past Senior Grand Master and Grand Chancellor, Will H. Whyte, in which most of the Templar world of legislation is carefully and most courteously digested, NOT including Mississippi. No doubt the absence of our literature from the report is in consequence of some dereliction of the redoubtable "Fred." At all event we charge it up to his account, but we do it with regret. We copy his opening chorus:

There is ever a song somewhere, my dear;
 There is ever a something sings alway;
 There's the song of the lark when the skies are clear,
 And the song of the thrush when the skies are grey.
 The sunshine showers across the grain,
 And the bluebird trills in the orchard tree:
 And in and out when the eaves drip rain,
 The swallows are twittering ceaselessly.

An evening in May, warm and balmy. The sparrows in the trees near by, for the past few hours, have been "twittering ceaselessly," in preparation for their night's repose. We have again resumed our work at the Round Table for the ninth time, and have glanced down the long line of proceedings of our Sister Jurisdictions to see who is missing. California is among the missing, and at the same time our eyes stray to a paper on our desk with the above quotation from J. Whitcomb Riley. As we recall the appalling disaster of the 18th of April last, on the Pacific Coast, where, by the shores of the Golden Gate, many hearts were weeping and sorrowing over loss of friends, family, and all worldly possessions, caused by the fearful earthquake shock, followed by fire, which completed one of the most terrible disasters of modern times, we cannot but think, that though "There is ever a Song somewhere my dear," it may be many a long day before the birds will sing or the sun shine in the heart, for many of those unfortunate sufferers on the Californian Coast. We sent our deepest sympathy to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery in San Francisco, knowing full well that we were expressing the deep sorrow of all our Canadian Brethren and Fraters, for their comrades.

We also clip a part of his Conclusion:

Last year, in company with our good wife, after close of Great Priory in Winnipeg, we journeyed to the Pacific Coast, and had the pleasure of meeting many of the active workers of the Order in that part of our great Dominion.

It may be of interest to some of the members of Great Priory to narrate our visit to the Maritime Provinces this year.

A few weeks after the close of the session in Montreal, we again, with the same good company, journeyed in the opposite direction, and paid a visit to that part of our country washed by the salt waves of the Atlantic Ocean. We spent several days in St. John, N. B., received most courteous attention from Past Grand Master, Senator Ellis and his charming wife and daughter; meeting also other old friends in Dr. Walker and his family and Brothers Magilton, Tufts, Twining Hart and others. A most enjoyable holiday, thanks to our very good friends.

Crossing to Prince Edward Island, we tarried a day in Charlottetown, the capital, visited all the points of interest and spent a charming evening with Dr. MacNeill and his good wife and daughter, and had an interesting interview with the presiding Preceptor and a number of his officers in the evening.

Sailing from Charlottetown, to Pictou, Nova Scotia, was an exceedingly delightful trip; glorious weather and a good steamer made the sail most enjoyable.

Taking train at Pictou, we had a long run out to the further end of Cape Breton, along the beautiful shores of the Bras D'Or Lakes; and had a nice stay at the rising town of Sidney, where extensive coal, iron and steel interests, together with a magnificent deep sea harbor, are fast building up a great commercial and shipping port. We met, with great pleasure, Frater McLean, and a number of the Knights of the new Preceptory there.

Leaving Sidney, we had a long delightful run to Halifax, N. S., where we spent a couple of enjoyable days. Meeting Fraters McF. Hall, Crowe and other good Knights, as well as a number of old Masonic friends and acquaintances.

Leaving Halifax, we spent a day at Truro, Nova Scotia. Had enjoyable meetings with many of the good Knights of that pretty town, old timers Logan and McLeod and John Hay, besides nearly all the Past Preceptors and the present Officers. To R. E. Sir Knight Waddell and his good wife, and to Em. George Hall are we indebted for kindly courtesies. The day was thoroughly enjoyed. We missed Frater Luther Archibald, "Archibald of Truro," as he is so well known in Great Priory, but we picked him up at Moncton, and he journeyed with us all the way to Montreal, a twenty-two hour trip, and we were indebted to him for making our journey a very pleasant one.

In every place visited, we had pleasant and instructive meetings with the Fraters, who were not backward in putting forward to the Grand Chancellor many questions and queries relating to the Order, and we were glad to find out personally the interest shown in the Order in these places. Our visits to the shores of both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and the many good Fraters we met with, will be long remembered.

Hope he and his good wife had a nice time. No doubt they did

Both the Grand Master and the Grand Chancellor were re-elected, and the latter was continued as Correspondent.

----- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1906.

The Eleventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Washington, May 14th. Present: R. E. Sir Bennett A. Allen, Grand Commander, E. Sir Arvine W. Johnstor, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except the G. Generalissimo, our beloved Brother and fellow Correspondent,

Sir George H. Walker, who was called home on May 5th, after an illness of five weeks. There were also in attendance eight Past Grand Commanders, twenty-eight Grand Representatives and Delegates and visitors from five Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short resume of an uneventful but successful administration. Speaking of the death of Brother Walker, he says:

SIR KNIGHTS: The vacant chair at my right symbolizes a vacancy in our ranks and a deep sorrow in our hearts. To-night we mourn the absence of one who was near and dear to us, to whose remains we paid the last honors of the Order one week ago. In the prime of a glorious manhood, when he could have reasonably looked forward to many years of usefulness, E. Sir George Harold Walker was stricken with paralysis and after an illness of five weeks departed this life on May 5, 1906. Let us glance at the record of his busy life. "Thus it is written."

E. Sir Knight Walker was born in Pontypool, Monmouthshire, England, November 27, 1851. Coming to this country, with his parents, in 1857, he resided in northern New York for one year, and then removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where his early education was obtained in the public schools, and in printing and newspaper offices. In 1865 he obtained employment with the Cleveland Leader, remaining until 1873, when he entered Cornell University, at the same time working in a printing office at Ithaca to help pay his way through college. Returning to the Cleveland Leader, he continued in the service of that journal as long as he was engaged in newspaper work, with the exception of two years, when he served on the editorial staff of the Cleveland Herald. In 1881 he came to Washington as correspondent of the Herald, but soon returned to the service of the Leader, and he was also for several years correspondent for the San Francisco Chronicle. His occupation as a newspaper man brought him in contact with many prominent public men, notably Presidents Garfield and McKinley, with whom he was in close confidential relations. Graduating in 1893 from the Columbia University, he forsook journalism for the law, and engaged in practice in this city until 1897, when he was appointed as Assistant Attorney of the Department of Justice by President McKinley, and remained in that honorable position until his death.

E. Sir Knight Walker first saw Masonic light in Hiram Lodge, No. ten, where he was made a Master Mason, November 17, 1882, from which time his progress in the fraternity was steadily upward. He was exalted in Mount Horeb Chapter, No. seven, March 1, 1883; knighted in Washington Commandery, No. one, April 25, 1883; and greeted in Washington Council, No. one, January 31, 1888. He received the degrees of the Scottish Rite from fourth to thirty-second in the several bodies in this city under the obedience of the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction, in 1889; the thirty-third degree (honorary) in the Supreme Council, October 22, 1897; and the Royal Order of Scotland in 1889. He was Worshipful Master of Hiram Lodge in 1888; High Priest of Mount Horeb Chapter in 1886; Thrice Illustrious Master of Washington Council in 1894; Commander of Washington Commandery in 1896; and Wise Master of Evangelist Chapter, Rose Croix, A. A. S. R., in 1896.

E. Sir Knight Walker was one of the organizers of Almas Temple of the Mystic Shrine in December, 1885, and served that body four years as Illustrious Potentate and eleven years as Recorder. For many years he represented the Temple in the Imperial Council of North America, and in 1894, as Chairman of the Committee on Revision of Ritual, he submitted a revision, largely his own work, which was adopted by a unanimous vote, and is now the ritual in use throughout North America.

E. Sir Knight Walker's services to Masonry won for him honors in the Grand Bodies of the District of Columbia. He was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in 1894, Grand Master of Masons in 1903, and at the time of his death held the rank of Grand Generalissimo in this body. Nothing would have been more certain than his advancement to the highest office in the gift of the Grand Commandery a year from this time, if he had lived. A ready and engaging speaker, an accomplished writer, an able Masonic jurist, a wise and safe counsellor, a broad humanitarian, a patriotic citizen, and a staunch friend, he left the world the better for his having lived in it. A great and noble soul has gone; a man among men has passed on.

We find nothing further of special interest to outsiders, in the address. He did a considerable business in junketing, socials, "planked shad-bakes" (do any of you people know what a "planked shad-bake" is? If yes, please rise and explain.), official and other visits, but issued no dispensations and made no decisions. Several pictures of the "Field Day" participants adorn the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance to the good, \$1,558.28; total membership, 1,729, a gain of 17.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the first offense of Grand Recorder, A. W. Johnston, covers forty-three pages, digests, briefly, the minutes of forty-four Templar Grands, Mississippi, at Brookhaven getting about a page. The brief time allowed Brother J. to do the work, after the death of Brother Walker, accounts for the brevity of the paper. What there is of it is creditable to its author and we welcome him to the "Table Round," at the same time dropping a tear because of the necessity, an extremely sad one, that laid the work on his shoulders. We copy his opening, it being a loving tribute to the memory and worth of our departed friend:

The illness and death of Sir George Harold Walker, who has written these reports during the past eight years, devolved that duty upon the undersigned, as the second member of the Committee on Correspondence. Stricken but a few weeks ago, it was the constant hope that Sir Knight Walker would recover and be able to perform what was a welcome task and a labor of love to him until his death two weeks ago. So the writer undertakes the work ill prepared and with but the briefest time in which to complete it which is our apology for the shortcomings that will be so apparent to the Fraters accustomed to the work of the beloved Walker.

Modest, retiring, unostentatious, George Harold Walker was one of the most valuable men with whom the brethren of the District of Columbia have ever been blessed. Naturally collected and conservative, a judicially trained mind made his advice, given only when asked, of especial value, and his service was always at the command of the Masonic bodies to which he belonged, equally, without being enthusiastic for some and neglectful of others. His Masonic reading was wide, his sense of justice was strong, and his powers of analysis and application were great—all combining to make him a valuable citizen, as a valuable Mason must ever be.

In the little time at our disposal, and with lack of experience in the field of Templar review, we have tried to do little more than epitomize the more important doings of the Grand Commanderies, and our work such as it is, we lay before you.

He gives his readers a complete synopsis of Brother Dixon's address, has a pleasant, as well as a flattering word for our report, and passes on to the next in line. He forgot to put a tail to his kite, which would, under other circumstances, make it appear unfinished. A portrait of the lamented Brother Walker precedes the report. A fine face, a good head, and a pleasant countenance. May God deal gently with those he loved and left behind.

R. E. Sir William F. Hunt is Grand Commander; Sir A. W. Johnston, Grand Recorder; Sir George E. Corson, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND AND WALES—1905.

Was holden at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Friday, December 8th, 1905. Present: The Right Hon., the Earl of Euston, G. C. T., on the throne. The attendance was large, but we find nothing of special interest to you people. We feel very kindly towards our English cousins, but notwithstanding that fact, it is a physical, as well as intellectual impossibility for us to produce an interesting review of such minutes as we find in this pamphlet. As repeatedly remarked, in former reports, you can't get up much of a story out of a dictionary, at least, that was what the old lady said, who borrowed one to read, and who, when asked how she liked it, replied: "The words are all right, but found it difficult to get the run of the story." And that is what is the matter with us now.

It is possible that we have told the above story before, but that cuts no ice, so don't mention it, please. Just to show you that they do things up in great style, over there, I excerpt what follows:

The Great Marshal: M. E. and Supreme Grand Master, the recently appointed Provincial Prior for Staffordshire and Warwickshire, seeks admission to Great Priory.

M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: Let him be admitted.

Trumpets sounded, and an Arch of Steel having been formed by the Grand Master's Body Guard under the direction of the Captain E. Knt. R. Clay Sudlow,

The V. E. Knight, Col. G. Walton Walker, K. C. T., was admitted, followed by his Standard Bearer and Escort, and advanced to the foot of the throne, and did homage on his appointment.

M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: I accept your homage and pledge of fealty: rise and take your place among the great officers.

The Very Eminent Knight, Col. G. Walton Walker, was then proclaimed, followed by a fanfare of trumpets.

The Great Marshal: The newly appointed Provincial Prior for Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Derbyshire also seeks permission to enter Great Priory.

The M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: Let him be admitted.

The V. E. Knight, Abraham Woodiwiss, K. C. T., accompanied by his Standard Bearer and Escort, then entered, and advancing to the Throne paid homage on his appointment.

The M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: With pleasure I accept your homage: rise and take your proper place in this Great Priory.

The Very Eminent Knight, Abraham Woodiwiss, was proclaimed by the Great Marshal.

The Great Marshal: M. E. and Supreme Grand Master, another Very Eminent Knight, the Provincial Prior for East Anglia, stands without, and claims permission to enter for the purpose of paying homage on his appointment.

M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: Admit the distinguished Knight. The trumpets having again sounded,

The V. E. Knight, Hamon le Strange, then entered Great Priory, likewise followed by his Standard Bearer and Escort, and advanced to the Throne and did homage on his appointment.

M. E. and Supreme Grand Master: I greet you well and accept your pledge of fealty: rise and take the place assigned to Knights of your rank.

The Very Eminent Knight, Hamon le Strange, was proclaimed, followed by a fanfare of trumpets.

It is likely that King Arthur was less stylish in dealing with his Knights of the Round Table, when they returned from their annual search for the "Holy Grail." Vide, "A Yankee in King Arthur's Court," by Mark Twain.

Here is something that will interest you:

Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master: I have a proposition to make before proceeding with the business before Great Priory. You will all remember that, about eighteen months ago or more, we were invited by the Supreme Grand Master of the United States to go over to America, and you authorized me and certain of my staff to pay a visit to the Grand Encampment as your delegates. The Grand Encampment was held at San Francisco. Now you all know by the papers what has happened in that place, and how it has been virtually wiped out as a city. We all received the greatest hospitality from the three Commaneries of San Francisco, and were feted in a way beyond all praise, in a manner which no words of mine can tell. We all deeply regret the sad calamity that has overtaken them, and entertain strong feelings of sympathy with them in their distress. As an earnest of our sympathy, I move that we send them one thousand dollars to be used as they think best for the benefit of any Knights Templar in trouble. I feel sure you will all agree with me, that we are not wasting money by doing this, and that you all deeply sympathize with them. I, therefore, propose that we vote one thousand dollars to be sent to the Supreme Grand Master of the United States, to be used as he thinks best.

As it is intensely hot, and getting hotter, as the day advances, we subside.

FLORIDA—1906.

The Twelfth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Jacksonville, May 10th. Present: R. E. Sir James Carnell, Grand Commander; E. Sir Wilber P. Webster, Grand Recorder, all the other members of the staff, save the eight Past Grand Commanders, a squad of Past Commanders,

twenty-six Grand Representatives and Delegates from eleven Subordinate Commanderies. The Representative from Mississippi was conspicuously absent.

The Grand Commander's address covers very nearly half of the pamphlet, is well written, good English, but is confined to matters of local interest. He opens with the old chestnuty reference to the originals of the Order and gravely remarks:

It was the happy privilege of the Knights of old whose valor and hospitality gave glory and renown to our Order in its early existence, to gather, after the toils of battle and the fatigue of the march, in some sacred asylum, where, in Holy Conclave, they lifted up their hearts in grateful devotion to God, and breathed the language of fraternal affection.

All of which is the veriest "rot." Instead of doing as he claims they did, they simply "made a night of it" and raised hell. The idea of those cut-throats meeting in "holy conclave" and lifting up their hearts in grateful devotion to anything but lust and spoils, is too perfectly ridiculous to talk about. Give us a rest along here, please.

He "instituted" two new Commanderies, St. Omer and Live Oak. Made no decisions, but did grant a few dispensations, all for "Rapid Transit." His phiz and that of Past Grand Commander Jewell adorn the pamphlet. Brother Jewell is the handsomest of the twain.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were brief and of local interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$786.02; total membership, 726, a gain of 105. There is no report on Correspondence.

R. E. Irvin E. Webster is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

GEORGIA—1906.

The Forty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Augusta, May 9th. Present: R. E. Sir Robert B. Barron, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir William S. Rockwell, Grand Recorder, all the other members of the staff, nine Past Grand Commanders, seventeen Grand Representatives and Delegates from eighteen Subordinate Commanderies. We note the absence of our Grand Representative, as usual.

The address of the R. E. is a brief resume of an uneventful, but creditable administration, in which we find nothing of a startling character. We note, with pleasure, the absence of any reference to the early Templars and their, alleged, piety. The most, if not all of them, were about as pious as a bob-sled and wielded their "trenchant blade" more in the interest of their own greed and licentious lust than from any desire to honor or serve God. We dislike to speak ill of the dead, even when they have been so for more than a thousand years, but "Magna est veritas

et prevalebit" and we can't help it. He says their Masonic Home is doing a "most noble and Godly work" and recommends an increase in their appropriation to that object. Sensible. He made no decisions, but granted lots of dispensations to ballot at will, i. e., at stated or special Conclaves.

They generally go the "whole hog" in that bailiwick in everything, except a Correspondence report. That is not worth printing, as it is builded. He recommended that the Grand Recorder's salary be advanced to \$750, and that of the Grand Treasurer to \$200. The advance is all right, as applied to the Grand Recorder, but as to the Grand Treasurer, is all wrong. \$50 is twice as much as he earns. His portrait adorns the pamphlet.

PROCEEDINGS.

These are of local interest and routine in character. They have purchased a slice of a Saratoga hotel. Price not stated. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$5,476.37. Total membership, 1,662, a gain of 281, which is pretty fair. We note that the body concurred in the recommendation of the Grand Commander as to salaries of Grand Recorder and Treasurer, in the usual Georgia style, i. e., they increased the work of the former about fifty per cent, by making him visit each Commandery in the State and instruct it in the tactics and ritual, for the \$750, and raised that of the Treasurer to \$150, when, as stated above, he was already overpaid. If, however, this arrangement suits our Brother Rockwell, we are not disposed to grumble.

What Brother Rockwell calls a Report on Correspondence, covers forty pages and claims to digest the proceedings of forty-four Templar Legislative Bodies, Mississippi at Jaxson getting half a page. With all due deference to our good Brother, the Jury finds the Report guiltless of imparting any information to his readers, of importance.

R. E. Sir John J. Seay is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

IDAHO—1905.

The First Annual Conclave of this young Templar Lady was held in the city of Boise, September, 15th. There were present: R. E. Sir James A Pinney, as Grand Commander; Sir Jesse K. Dubois, as Grand Recorder; seven Grand Representatives, eighteen Past Commanders and Delegates from five Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address covers two pages, but as he told his story, in that space, we do not object to the brevity of the paper, but the contrary. We commend his style to certain Sky Pilots, who are loaded, to the muzzle, with hot air, when they ought to be loaded with the sublime message of the Gospel of our Lord. These protracted homilies on abstruse subjects, in which the simplicity of the Gospel has but a small place, simply tire the people and accomplish but little good, in the direction of saving humanity from sin and eternal death.

The Right Eminent indulged in his "opening chorus," in the somewhat common custom of discounting his ability to handle the helm of such a ponderous vessel as is the Grand Commandery of Idaho, which was labor lost, unless he put it in to fill up.

He issued one dispensation for a new Commandery, at Idaho Falls, and several to ballot on the jump, all of which was right and proper. He also recommended all his subordinates to go to church on Easter, or the Sunday following Ascension Day.

The proceedings were routine and devoid of general interest. Treasury balance, \$316.10, total membership, 279, a gain of 9.

CORRESPONDENCE

is the maiden effort of Sir Jesse K. Dubois, covers the greater part of the pamphlet, reviews the minutes of seventeen Templar Grands, and will do first rate, for an amateur. Mississippi is absent from the report which gives it a sort of unfinished appearance which is regrettable. He thus commends California for prohibiting the use of intoxicants at Templar banquets:

"All hail California! You have set a high standard in Templary and Masonry, etc."

We concur, but rise to remark that if either the Order of the Temple or Masonry had a proper conception of the fundamental principles of the two Ords, there would be no use for such enactments.

R. E. Sir George H. Olmstead is Grand Commander; R. E. Sir J. A. Pinney, Grand Recorder and Sir Jesse K. Dubois, Correspondent.

ILLINOIS—1906.

The Fiftieth, or Semi-Centennial Conclave was held in the city of Chicago, October, 23rd. There were present: R. E. Sir Alfred A. Whipple, Grand Commander; E. Gilbert W. Barnard, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers; seventeen Past Grand Commanders, thirty-five Grand Representatives, including our's, Brother Elwood, of Joliet, a multitude of Past Commanders and Representatives from seventy Subordinate Commanderies. During the opening ceremonies, the Grand Prelate, Reverend Sir Thomas A. Parker, offered the following beautiful and appropriate prayer. It is a trifle long, and there are some propositions in it that have a cloudy appearance to one with his eyes open. For instance: "Thy word has been the delight of our homes. Thy love has filled our lives." That same word alluded to by the preacher, says: "By their fruits ye shall know them. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" Certainly the answer is easy and the application justifiable. A man that has a home in which God's Word is the delight of the family, is not going out of that home to engage in anything counter in its influence and character to the teaching of that Book, nor is a heart filled with divine love going to

give utterance to an oath or take a hand in anything offensive to that Spirit, hence it would have been better for the preacher to have made provision for exceptions, and not been so sweeping in his claims, unless they have an exceptional lot of Templars up in that bailiwick, which we are bound to doubt. However, as a literary gem, the prayer is all right, and as the ONE to whom it was addressed understood the moral and religious character of the subjects of the prayer, it is not likely that harm will result. But here is the prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, we come into Thy presence reverently, devoutly, penitently. We revere Thy glorious name; we worship Thee, and we feel our unworthiness. We have no claim upon Thy justice; we have no merits to plead, no good works to offer. We trust only in the merit of Christ our Lord, and ask to be adopted as Thy sons, because of His infinite grace.

"We are grateful for Thy continued favors toward us, both personally and socially. During the year now gone into the past Thou hast graciously remembered us. Thy word has been the delight of our homes; Thy love has filled our lives; Thy spirit has encouraged us, and made our daily life a song of peace and rest. The work of our hands has prospered; the hopes of our hearts have been measurably fulfilled, and, day by day, Thy presence has made us strong in daily toil. Thou hast not forgotten us when unexpected trials have assailed us; when sickness has prostrated us or our beloved, and when sorrow has keenly pierced our hearts. During this year some of us have watched at the bedside of those we best loved; we have seen them fail and fade from our clinging hands and hearts; and we have gone with them in the valley of death until by faith we knew the Good Shepherd had received them to His compassionate bosom, and opened to them the door of paradise.

"Thou hast remembered our nation, our Father, and the closing year has been richly illustrated by the benefits of Thy goodness. Our ship of state sails on and on beneath unclouded skies and over pacific seas. No war clouds have darkened our horizon, but peace and good will toward men have gone with our nation's flag into every clime, and into every port. We pray Thy especial guardianship in behalf of our frater, the President of the United States, and in behalf of all public officers clad with the authority of law and chosen by the voice of the people. May God bind the nation in the bonds of perpetual and fraternal love and trust.

"We pray for the welfare of the widely extended Brotherhood of Masonry, and of all kindred fraternities. We do not forget that we have promised, in Thy Holy Presence, to ever be ready to succor the needy, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to comfort the desolate, and wherever the white banner of Christ and His cross may lead, to follow it with steadfast fidelity.

"We pray also for Thy guidance through the business of this convulse. May its transactions be so done that our leaders may be honored and the craft be aided in the work of the opening year.

"To-day our thoughts are going back over the long space of fifty years. To some the memories are vivid; the experiences are sacred. How many of the good, true brothers have met with us and forever parted from us! We have seen them marching away under the banner of the Union. We have moved by their side; we have tented with them, fought with them, and when the battle was done we have helped to bury their forms under the soil they consecrated and beneath the flag they loved. Some there were who lived in the stress and toil of their busy lives in serving their age well and honorably and going hence have left the impress of their faithful lives upon their families, their country and their

communities. Some are yet with us. The touch of fifty years of time has deepened their souls, mellowed their hearts, whitened their heads, but slowly lifted them nearer to God and close to the open gates of eternal life. May God's grace make the last days of our venerable fraters tender with love and gentle with Heaven's benediction. May the afternoon of their lives be as the summer sky—pure, serene, cloudless.

"Our final prayer is as our Master has taught us:

"Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen." "

Grand Master Moulton, Grand Encampment of the United States was received with the honors due his exalted position, and made a short, but nice speech. Quite a number of other distinguished visitors were there, including the Grand Commander of Michigan.

The address of the Grand Commander is a complete resume of the important events of a busy but uneventful administration. We clip a part of his prologue:

"In the name of a noble and chivalrous ancestry, I bid you welcome to the Semi-Centennial Conclave of the representatives of this Magnanimous Order in Illinois.

"Entering as we are upon the fiftieth year of our existence as a Grand Commandery, it might not be amiss if we take a retrospective view, and call to mind a scene enacted in this city forty-nine years ago. On Tuesday, October 27, 1857, there convened in the Masonic Temple in Chicago, 83 and 85 Dearborn street, the representatives of three small commanderies, having a total membership of one hundred and eighty-three Sir Knights, who, acting under the warrant of Most Eminent Sir William Blackstone Hubbard, Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States of America, organized the Grand Commandery of Illinois. From this small beginning has grown a Grand Commandery within whose jurisdiction there are seventy subordinate commanderies and a membership of nearly thirteen thousand Sir Knights. The Grand Commandery of Illinois, ranking fourth in membership and second only in number of commanderies, among the Grand Jurisdictions, is an organization of which every Templar in this State may well feel proud."

He reported that all but four of his subordinates were religious either on "Easter" or "Ascension Days," and that they toted over three thousand swords!! The question intrudes; What element of acceptable worship is concealed in those swords? The Master we are supposed to worship, is familiarly known as "The Prince of Peace," and while it is true that He declared that He came not to bring peace, but a SWORD, we have never heard the idea advanced that He meant a deadly weapon, hence the incongruity apparent in attending divine service armed. However, it is idle to talk about it as "Ephriam is joined to idols, let him alone." He granted twenty-four dispensations, none of them of importance, four being for rapid transit, one for "pilgrimage" purposes and the balance for other things. For these documents he collected \$225.00 and

turned it into the treasury, so it seems to cost something, in that bailiwick, to procure dispensations. He made two decisions, but neither of them of sufficient importance to quote.

PROCEEDINGS

Were of the usual routine brand and devoid of special interest to outsiders. Grand Treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$14,978.79; total membership, 12,664, a gain of 546. The Templars of Illinois contributed over \$4,000.00 for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers, which was pretty fair.

His portrait adorns the pamphlet; a fine as well as a handsome face.

The Installation was marked with the somewhat unusual participation of "The Officers of three different Grand Commanderies," viz.: Illinois, Mississippi and Louisiana. Grand Master George M. Moulton, presiding, and Sir Knight Speed, of Mississippi, acting as Grand Marshal, and Sir Knight DePass, of Louisiana, as Grand Prelate.

Our Fred was present at the Banquet, and of course was called upon to make "a few remarks" which he did according to the record. Fred's visit, however, was not made for the purpose of attending the Grand Commandery, but that he might visit our dearly beloved Brother, General John Corson Smith, who was threatened with a very serious illness, which followed immediately after. The dear old General, although suffering intense pain, presided at the Semi-Centennial Banquet, and so great was his self-control that but few in the vast assemblage suspected that he was not in his usual health. In the evening he again presided at the meeting of the Illinois Veteran Association, held at "Smith's Inn," and then resigned himself to his fate, which was to be tortured for weeks with a malignant carbuncle, and for days thereafter his life trembled in the balance. It is delightful for us to know that he is still spared to his family, friends and Masonry.

Referring again to the Banquet, Installation and speechifying, it is eminently proper, as well as true, for us to remark that when it comes to making a good speech on any occasion, and on any subject, except, possibly, scripture and theology, Fred is abundantly able to hold up his end of the log and do as well as the best of them. Unlike some Sky Pilots we know of, he never speaks without saying something of interest; hence we congratulate our Sucker friends on their good fortune in hearing him. It is not likely that Fred would admit that he is shaky on theology or quoting scripture, but he is, just the same. Bless his dear, faithful heart!

R. E. Sir Albert F. Schoch, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Correspondence is the finished ashler of our dearly loved and afflicted brother John Corson Smith, Past Grand Commander. Like its predecessors from the same distinguished source, it is a good one and

considers most of the proceedings of the governing Templar bodies of the world in his usual instructive style, including Mississippi, at Brookhaven. We copy his prologue:

OUR EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL.—1906.

If it were possible for man to shove back Old Father Time as he can turn back the hands of a grandfather's clock, then this correspondent would be one year younger, for this is but his eighteenth writing on correspondence, which for some oversight was credited to our 1905 report.

"Uncle Dick" Oglesby, the grand old Governor with whom we served as Lieutenant Governor, used to tell of an old friend who remarrying when well in his sixties, to make himself appear younger "turned the family bible back eight years," "but," and the old Governor would laughingly add, "it didn't do the old sap-sucker any good for he died of old age soon after he reached the allotted age of three score years and ten," and so we claim no credit for that mistake of one year.

We present this annual, having reviewed all proceedings received. Three are wanting, California, as all our fraters know, by reason of that terrible disaster which befell its Queen City of San Francisco in April last by earthquake and fire; South Dakota and Washington, the reason for which we know not.

Peace, prosperity and knightly grace abounds in all our jurisdictions and everywhere we note that preparations are being made for the coming Thirtieth Triennial Conclave of Grand Encampment.

May we be given health, strength and a plentiful pocketbook to attend.

JOHN CORSON SMITH,
Correspondent.

Brother John devotes two pages to our minutes. He has a loving word for "Fred." Has only good words for all of us. We copy his entire review of our report, as it has a spice of history in it that may interest those of you who know and love the man:

Correspondence, sixty-six pages, by that interesting writer, Sir Knight DeLap, whose review of the Templar doings in Illinois is always read with pleasure, and his opinions respected and treasured. Speaking of the opening prayer of the Grand Prelate which he thinks a good one, though a little long, the writer goes on to advise those who make prayers to the audience which he is sure never reach above the ceiling that they should reform their manner of addressing the Throne of Divine Grace and learn how to begin, continue, and end a prayer if they expect it to be answered. The Prelate, whose prayer is referred to, can make as brief and effective a prayer as Brother George desires and he does so on most occasions.

The Sir Knight is now Chaplain at our National Soldier's Home, Danville, was our senate chaplain when the writer was Lieut-Governor, and the chaplain of the first state convention, before which we appeared as a candidate for a state office. On that occasion his prayer was:

"Our Heavenly Father, we pray that Thou bless the members of this convention, endow them with wisdom to select the best candidates and then O Lord, do Thou help elect them. Amen!" A minute or two elapsed before the convention realized the prayer was ended, when the delegates broke out in cheers. All the same, this writer was nominated and elected, since which time we have loved Sir Knight, the Rev. Thomas Asbury Parker, now an aide on our staff as Department Commander of Illinois Grand Army of the Republic.

Quoting our opening and what we said of the lamented Sir Knight Howard, not overlooking what we said of his request to Grand Recorder Speed, "to put a tail to his review," he kindly says of our "Freemasonry and Its World-Wide Benevolence," that it is "A mass of information, profusely illustrated, all of which is along the same lines as have been his writings during the last several years," adding that "The present essay will make an excellent and interesting chapter in that book which we hope to see published before we cross over to the other side."

"Unless our blessed Immanuel shall restore our strength and we be spared the suffering and anxiety of the past few years Frater DeLap will have to wait our meeting on the other shore, when he will know more in person than we could ever impart to him this side of the broad river. Though suffering, we write in cheerful spirit and in the hope of being spared yet awhile for the good we may do our family and mankind."

Under the head of "Masonic Outposts on our Western Border," we find another chapter of that book that we hope to see published, before we go home to heaven, in which Masonry, Masons and Lodges are considered, not only on our Western borders, but in the isles of the sea and the "Far East." The paper is profusely illustrated and very interesting.

Following this, we find the portraits of Mrs. Smith in 1856 and the same in 1906, or fifty years later, with an account of the celebration of the "Golden Wedding" of this lovable couple. This occurred on the 24th of March, ulto. and was a grand affair. Congratulating the high contracting parties, most heartily, we wish them enough happy returns of the day to enable them to celebrate the diamond wedding. Candor compels us to say that sister Smith is the best looking of the two, although John is a right good second. She looks like brother John has treated her well, and we do not doubt he has. God bless them both, and with them all their loved ones.

We are profoundly sorry that our brother continues in ill health, and earnestly pray that his life and usefulness may be prolonged for many years.

INDIANA—1906.

The opening of the Fifty-second Annual Conclave was preceeded by a Grand Parade, and Review, a Reception, Promenade, Competitive Drill and three addresses of Welcome, which was enough for all practical purposes and, probably, tired the hearers out, although our Hoosier brethren may like this sort of Hot Air better than we do. They were along the usual lines, reference being made to "hospitality," although the price is not stated.

The Conclave was held in the Auditorium, Winona Lake, May, 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir Nathan L. Agnew, Grand Commander; E. Sir Calvin W. Prather, Grand Recorder; the entire staff; fifteen Past Grand Commanders, thirty Grand Representatives, including Brother Fred Glass, for Mississippi, a multitude of visitors and representatives from forty-nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a full resume of the principal acts of his administration, in which we find nothing of special interest to outsiders. He granted the usual number of dispensations and along customary lines. Twenty-one commanderies asked for and obtained leave to dispense with time and space and put candidates through on the "Fast Mail," but the number of candidates is not stated. The R. E. states, however, that the "full name" of each is a matter of record, which will enable the authorities to trace them up, should they be guilty of any devilment. He permitted one of his subordinates to "INVADE" a neighboring State, which we consider a risky business. Another one to make a "PILGRIMAGE," probably in search of the "Holy Grail," but ostensibly to make a call on friends. Poor old words, "Invade and Pilgrimage!" what superlative nonsense is committed in thy names! He also allowed several of them to be religious in uniform and with swords. He likewise allowed a commandery from the Sucker State, to INVADE Indiana, which is another evidence of the reckless, if not fearless character of the man. His decisions were of local interest, having reference to constructions of their own statutes. One Past Grand Commander, of that jurisdiction, had passed to his eternal state and proper tribute was paid to his memory and worth. "Requiescat in pace."

The proceedings were of the usual routine character. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$11,049.60. Total membership, 5,393, a gain of 277. \$500 were appropriated to the relief of the San Francisco sufferers.

CORRESPONDENCE

Reviews the transactions of forty-six (all) the Templar governing bodies with which Indiana is in correspondence, and is the work of Brother Martin H. Rice. It covers about eighty pages and contains some matters of interest. Mississippi at Jackson gets a page.

R. E. Sir Oliver Gard is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1906.

The Twelfth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Ada, April, 19th. There were present: R. E. Sir John Colye, Grand Commander; E. Sir Joseph S. Murrow, Grand Recorder; all the balance of the staff, except the Grand Standard Bearer and the Grand Drill Master and Inspector, which is a large-sized title for a rather small office, considering the numerical size of the jurisdiction. The G. D. M. & I. afterwards turned up, as the credentials committee reported him present. We also note that the Warder (the minutes call him "Warden" which is, no doubt, the work of the Intelligent Compositor, whose chief end and aim, in life, seems to be a desire to mix things and get them wrong) was absent and that his place was filled by Sir Robert H. Henry. We were not before aware that our beloved friend "Hy." was over in that "neck of the woods" in April.

We note all these little things, because the whole pamphlet, including index and names of members, only contains forty pages, which makes that extraordinarily high titled officer seem a little extravagant.

There were also present: Three Past Grand Commanders; several other Past Grand Officers; eight Grand Representatives, not including our's, a lot of Past Commanders and Representatives of seven Subordinate Commanderies, one of them being U. D.

The Grand Commander's address is one of the short kind, which is refreshing, this hot day. He reports a fair measure of prosperity and that death had not invaded their ranks, during the year. "There is none good, but One, That is God." He has something to say as to the union with Oklahoma, in the event Congress unites the two Territories into one State. Congress is proverbially slow, but manages to get there, Eli, where the behests of party allow them to land the fish, and we are of the opinion that these two divisions of our great and glorious country will be incorporated into one State, in the near future. At least the contents of our National Story Paper and Hot Air Repository, the Congressional Record, indicates as much. He issued three dispensations, along the usual lines; also one for a new Commandery, at Tulsa, and instituted one at Ada.

The proceedings were routine and of local significance. The treasury contained a balance, to the good, of \$862.28; total membership,—— The minutes are silent, on this subject, and it is too hot for us to count up each commandery. That is what the Grand Recorder is paid to do, and he should have done it.

Of course there is no report on Correspondence. We hope when the two jurisdictions are united, after they are made into a State, that we shall have a report from them on this line.

IOWA—1906.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave was held at Spirit Lake, Templar Park, July, 10th. There were present: R. E. Sir Samuel I. Williams, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir David Millar Brownlee, Grand Recorder; all the rest of the staff, a lot of Past Grand Commanders, Grand Representatives and Delegates from forty-six Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short resume of an uneventful, but successful administration. We excerpt his opening remarks:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHT TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

The Forty-third Annual Grand Conclave brings us again to our Templar home on the shores of the beautiful Spirit Lake, around which cluster so many memories dear to our hearts.

This is the fourteenth consecutive Grand Conclave at this park, so richly endowed by nature, and the sixteenth annual session on these grounds.

Begun as a doubtful experiment and with some difference of opinion, Templar Park has become the permanent home of this Grand Body, and the place where business and pleasure so well combines that we all look forward with gladness to the time of our reunion here.

"The Indian with his pony and wigwam has gone away,
But the plumed knight and his family have come to stay."

In the brief period of its existence many learned and able fraters, whom we had learned to love, have gone to "that bourne from whence no traveler returns," and each year has brought many new and pleasant faces of others who are destined to carry on the work of our noble Order and push it to still higher achievements.

If we only had such a delightful Templar Home as their's is, it would be mighty nice.

He made several decisions, but none of them of sufficient importance to copy here.

We note, with surprise, not unmixed with regret, that he granted no dispensations for rapid transit through the ballot boxes. He closes with the usual expression of thanks for the honors conferred upon and assistance rendered him. His phiz makes a nice frontispiece to the pamphlet. A good, strong face.

PROCEEDINGS

were of the ordinary routine character and contain nothing of special interest to outsiders. Treasury balance, to the good, \$2,651.12. Total membership, 5,469, a gain of 68. We take these figures from the Grand Commander's address and he gives them as being up to January 1st, 1905, which is twenty months ago, so there is evidently a mistake somewhere. Although we hunted the pamphlet through we could find no other statement in regard to the matter. The Grand Recorder leaves the matter untouched in his report, or we have overlooked it, the latter not being, at all, likely.

We note that the Triennial Committee rented a cottage, being an appendage of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, for the period of four days, the consideration being \$169 per diem, aggregating \$676.00 for the four days. We presume this includes grub, but the fact, if fact it is, is not stated by the committee. The cottage accommodates twenty-four people, leaving a Head-Quarters Room for the Grand Body. Right along here Puck's well-known motto bobs up, serenely in our minds, and we dismiss the subject.

The "Committee on Charity" reported that no case of destitution had been brought before them. A singular state of things, certainly.

CORRESPONDENCE

Covers one hundred and six pages, reviews the proceedings of all Templar Grand Bodies in the world, except four, and is the perfect ashler of our old and good friend, Past Grand Commander Babb. Like all his literary productions, it is first-class in all respects. His opening chorus, or pro-

logue, is very brief. We clip the most of it: "Montaigne, in his preface says: 'I have gathered flowers from everybody's field, and nothing is mine except the string that binds them.'" This is what we have attempted to do. How well we have succeeded we must leave to the charitable judgment of our readers." We are inclined to think that Brother Babb's effort is about up to the Montaigne standard.

Brother B's. attention to our pamphlet, (Brookhaven) is very full, flattering, courteous and kind. He opens thusly:

When we come to Mississippi this year we find an abundance of interesting matters for our readers. It is not one of the largest jurisdictions in point of numbers, but we always open its proceedings with pleasure, anticipating something unique and that will amply repay us for the time spent in reading them, and we have never been disappointed.

Of Brother Dixon's address, these:

The address of the Grand Commander, Sir Knight John Foggo Dixon, is a model document. Concise, divested of all official documents, and when he had fully covered the ground he had the good sense to say "Amen."

"He had the backbone to refuse all dispensations to ballot out of time. He came to the conclusion that he could not do this under the statutes of the Grand Encampment, and, while he thought the law was wrong, he did not attempt to disregard it, as too many Grand Commanders do."

It is a little risky to copy the above, as John Foggo is naturally a trifle vain and this sort of taffy may aggravate the disease and carry him off, but we will venture it, on the principle that it will do him some good, while he is alive, to have people say nice things about him, but it won't have any such effect if postponed until he has "crossed the divide."

He also commends Fred's necrological report, calling the tribute to the memory of Past Grand Commander Dewey, beautiful, etc.

Of our report he says:

This is from the brain and pen of that well-known veteran in this field, Sir Knight E. G. DeLap, Past Grand Commander, and is up to the high standard that he set many years ago. There is not a dull line in the sixty-six pages which it covers. He always challenges our admiration, even when we disagree with him, as he has the courage of his convictions and expresses his views in good old Anglo-Saxon terms, that all can understand just what he means and where he stands.

He copies our response to his propositions of last year, in regard to "the Brother in black," as an act of fairness to us, for which we are obliged. We agree with him that this is not a proper place for a discussion of questions of this kind, and will do our best to avoid a resumption of it. These reports must have some spice in them, something out of the usual course, or nobody will read them, and that WOULD be bad.

Following the excerpt from our report, he says:

It will be noted that Frater DeLap is willing to concede that there may be a separate Heaven for the good negro. We confess that we have grave doubts whether the Divine plan embraces such a "Jim Crow" arrangement. In that great day the rich and the poor, the bond and the free, the white and the black, we have no doubt, will stand upon an equal plain. Race and social distinctions will then disappear. If that is not the teaching of christianity, then certainly we fail to comprehend it.

We are disposed to deny our brother's implied proposition of social equality between the races, in that upper and better country. The Lord doesn't mix things to that extent in the economy of His Grace. Taking John's vision, on the Isle of Patmos, as authority, his account of the four and twenty elders, the four beasts, the hundred, forty and four thousand, who had come up through great tribulation and occupied a place distinctly separate from the others, there seems to be a touch of class and grades of respectability, to use a familiar word, not exactly in consonance with the somewhat socialistic creed of our brother. However, if we get inside the pearly gates and meet and greet our loved ones who have gone before, and are permitted to see "The King in His beauty" we shall be entirely content.

We clip from his "Conclusion:"

The large growth in numbers to which we referred last year still continues without abatement, and we see a strong disposition to advance our Order to a higher plane, and to make it a more aggressive force than ever before in the world's civilization.

When we resumed our seat at the "Round Table" four years ago, after an absence of some time, we thought that we might be able to continue in this field of work, which we enjoy, for many years to come, but we find that business cares and other duties will render this impossible. We are compelled to bid our fraters and companions who make up the "Mutuals" an adieu, for the present at least. We hope to meet many of you as the years pass by, but whether we do or not, we will always cherish you in fond remembrance.

May the watchful eye of a kind and loving Father ever attend each of our readers through all the journey of life, and bring us all at last to a glad reunion where partings and farewells shall be unknown.

We are delighted to see that our distinguished brother, notwithstanding his expressed determination to quit, is still on the committee, where he ought to be. This shows that our Iowa brethren have sense enough, when they get hold of a good thing, to save it.

R. E. Sir Cromwell Bowen is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

KANSAS—1906.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Topeka, May, 8th. Present: R. E. Sir B. B. Brown, Grand Commander; F. Sir Thomas J. Anderson, Grand Recorder; all the other staff officers, except the Grand Captain General, (who was ill and unable to attend)

and the Grand Captain of Gd.; twelve Past Grand Commanders, eighty-four Past Commanders, twenty-seven Grand Representatives and Representatives from Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a well-written resume of a successful, but quiet administration. We copy a part of his "Prologue," which contains sundry and divers bits of eloquence, oratory and chestnuttty references to the original Templars. If there was nothing in it but the last named, we would not quote it for pay, but as there is considerable wheat scattered through the chaff, (in fact there is much more wheat than chaff,) we accord him the courtesy of "Editorial notice." He may not appreciate this act of kindness, but if he does not, and that pretty highly, too, he lacks judgment. As it would be a pity to dissect so goodly a frame, we take it all in:

Behold the sign! Flashing from your breasts in the glorious sunlight of God's Heaven—the cross; marching under a banner whose black and white folds floated over many a blood-stained field of Palestine—defenders of the Cross; with glittering, and God grant, unsullied swords consecrated to a cause which all the world respects—Soldiers of the Cross; you gather here to-day to receive that wealth of welcome which knightly courtesy and Christian love can give.

Who are we, and why this pageantry and parade? Does the cross upon the breast, the cross-mounted banner, the cross-shaped sword mean only a pleasing form of decoration to adorn in vanity the person, and attract the eye of the spectator by its glitter? A thousand times no; and he who does so wear these decorations, or so views these ceremonies, shames manhood, and disgraces the Christian mother who gave him birth. The kindly light in these eyes, the soft lines in these countenances, the considerate demeanor, proclaim that here are those who seek to be the exemplars of those ancient Christian warriors whose lives were freely given to protect the memory of the blessed Christ from impious sacrilege of infidel and Saracen. Here are those who wear the cross, delighted in the contemplation of its mystic love, ready to defend it against the enemies who assail its memory, not with sword or lance, or battle axe, but with the weapons of sophistry, the mummery of mysticism and the fallacy of faded philosophies of other ages and other people.

By far the most potent factor in the wondrous advance of civilization has been the Christian religion. On this rests all wealth of real and legendary Masonic history. To the influence of the Christian religion, and to that solely, is due the development and progress of Masonry. No institution ever lived beyond the generation which gave it birth which was not founded on the eternal principles of Truth. God alone is Truth, and it is the recognition of this one single thought which makes Masonry universal.

Forms and ceremonies are as empty as gourds if they stand not for a truth. Above all the organizations of men stands Masonry, the impregnable bulwark for ages of the great truth crystallized in the wondrous story of the Cross, and the heroism of JESUS of Nazareth on the stony heights of Calvary. Just so long as the Masonic institution holds aloft the Cross, and maintains its unwavering allegiance to that for which the Cross stands, just that long will it, be a prominent factor in the affairs of men, and will command the respect of nations; but when specious argument or cleverly invented pretext brings forth a substitute for the undying and everlasting underlying principles of the Christian religion, then the institution will cease to be universal in its purposes, and its organization will afford only opportunity for the gratification

of personal ambitions or the assassinations of personal hatred and revenge. Intolerance finds no place whatever in the Christian religion, but it is the most infamous type of intolerance that covertly attacks the principles of the Christian religion through the twaddling technicalities of an arraignment of some minor enunciation of faith or creed. Every man with a moral nature, and the intelligence which he must possess to become a Mason, is capable of interpreting the story of the Cross, and to us it has but one meaning, and can have but one meaning in every clime, on every day, in every week, in every year, and in every age: JESUS of Nazareth has come to men as the Messiah, and he who looks upon Calvary with the eyes of this faith, will see the rare coloring of the Rose of Sharon, and breathe its sweet fragrance. This was the story we learned at our mother's knee, and when come the deepening shadows of life's sunset, with hunger and with thirst we will turn to the Cross for that unfailing consolation and gentle rest which it alone can give. Go forth then from this asylum, and the pleasures of these moments strong in your armour, rejoiced in the cause in which you are engaged.

We again demur to the proposition of adopting the early Templars as "exemplars," that is of anything good, or commendable. History bears us out in this and we are not going to do it. He also deprecates the idea of Templars wearing the uniform as a simple adornment, remarking that those who do "shame their manhood and disgrace the Christian mother who gave them birth." This is pretty tough on a lot of you people, (I never wore the togs but once, and that when presiding as Grand Commander,) as well as hard on your good mothers and we again demur. It is said that the tailor makes the man, and he frequently does, where there is nothing but a bundle of animated bones to work on, but the showy uniform of the Order has never yet made a Templar, in the best that that name implies. We take pleasure in endorsing the balance of the prologue.

He granted a dispensation for a new Commandery at Garden City, and it was chartered at the same conclave.

Under the head of Routine Work, he has this to say in regard to rapid transit balloting and kindred matters, in which we concur, although "We uns" have been in the habit of rendering an itemized account of these things. What we principally admire is his assumption that the officers and members of the Subordinate Commanderies have sense and good judgment enough to not abuse these extra privileges. This is refreshing and we are glad to see it. What is remarkable is, the absence of any reference to the coming conclave of the Grand Encampment, at Saratoga. Nor do we find anything in the minutes on this subject. No option on a hotel, nor anything of the sort, so there must be a screw loose somewhere.

The address, as a whole, is a good one and a credit to its author, whose phiz makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet. A good, strong and exceedingly pleasant face. The Lord generally writes a very legible hand on a man's face, and we do not expect ever to hear that Brother Brown has been guilty of something low, or mean.

PROCEEDINGS

These are of the usual routine character and are devoid of special interest to outsiders. The different Subordinate Commanderies contributed \$800 to the relief of the sufferers in California, by the earthquake and fire. The Grand Recorder reported a total membership of 4,317, a net gain of 378. Grand Treasurer reported receipts of \$4,368.50; disbursements, \$3,416.42, leaving balance in treasury, including, of course the balance from last year, \$5,689.24. We note a mistake of \$90 in the grand total, which is doubtless a typographical, or clerical error.

CORRESPONDENCE

In the sixth offence, in regular order, of our good friend and brother, Shaver, covers seventy-six pages and digests the minutes of forty-five Templar Grands in his usual clear, instructive and interesting style. Under Illinois he has this to say anent the "Christmas Toast Committee:"

Why a committee should dictate what should be the sentiment from the gathered Templar host on Christmas morn has long eluded our comprehension. Every commandery gathered for that occasion is possessed of sufficient gray matter properly to frame the sentiments which should spring from the heart on Christmas Day, and the printed formula, no matter how beautifully expressed, stifles that sentiment and makes that portion of the service merely perfunctory. We were glad to note that the Grand Commandery, through its committee, heartily approved of the suggestion of the Grand Commander, and we trust it may bear fruit.

The "committee" idea is in perfect keeping with the animus of the Grand Encampment, in which the assumption that the subordinate rank and file are not sufficiently intelligent to get up a spread eagle toast, or do anything else that requires gray matter. We are inclined to decide that Brother Shaver is right, and shall so decide, unless a division is called for. Brother William devotes four pages to Mississippi at Jaxson and Brookhaven. He notes the brevity of Frank's address and the fact that the Law Committee dropped on to a couple of his dispensations with a dull thud, and discourses thusly of the redoubtable "Fred," on the Grand Encampment:

The Grand Recorder, the inimitable FREDERIC SPEED, submitted a report which was principally a "knock" on the Grand Encampment. Sir Knight FREDERIC has been wanting some legislation, but he was not present to submit it himself—possibly that would not have changed the result—and the Grand Encampment did not consider it necessary and turned it down. There is too much fuss and feathers at the Grand Encampment to get much sensible legislation enacted—and there is no show on earth if you do not look after it yourself.

He also pays your distinguished Reporter the compliment of copying some of his wise and interesting fulminations, copies Fred's foot note anent the matter of "Southern Hospitality" at Louisville, and remarks:

"Nothing more need be said. Well we remember our Mississippi neighbors of the week in Louisville, and it is one of our happy memories that we were privileged to meet that true knight, Great Heart, whose pulses were so soon to cease to throb."

Reviewing Brookhaven, he says of Brother Dixon's address, that it is an able presentation of the Templar work of the year.

Of the work of your distinguished Reporter, he says it is the equal of its predecessors in interest. He also remarks that our theology, as given to the Apostle Peter, of New Jersey, is correct. Which is pleasant. We leave William with regret, but Kansas has her rations, in full.

R. E. Sir Thomas G. Fitch is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent both retained in their places.

KENTUCKY—1906.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Paris, May 23d. Present: R. E. Sir John W. Landrum, Grand Commander; E. Sir Alfred Hughes Bryant, Grand Recorder, fourteen Past Grand Commanders, twenty-three Grand Representatives, including our's, and Representatives from twenty-three Subordinate Commanderies, together with a multitude of Past Commanders.

The first thing in order, was a sermon by the Grand Prelate, with Matthew, 20th chapter, 28th verse, as the text. (We would quote the text, but for the hope that some of you people will take up your Bible, brush the dust of ages off of it, and hunt it up.)

The sermon is a real good one, and differs from a great many we have read, in that it is largely in line with the text. This is refreshing, as it is, too often, the custom for our modern "Sky Pilots," at the same time they take their texts, to take, also, a final, if not an affectionate leave of them, which is bad. Either take no text, or talk about it! Don't "slosh" round, like a decapitated hen; it looks as though you did not understand your text and feel a delicacy about talking about what you do not comprehend. The same rule should obtain in your alleged prayers. It is not necessary to call the Lord's attention to the component parts of the Trinity, or enlarge upon the attributes of the Almighty. He knows all about these things, much better than you do, nor is it needful for you to tell Him where a missionary is located, if you happen to be praying specifically, for one of these. Neither is it necessary to tell Him whether the missionary, aforesaid, is a medical, or a Gospel! Bless your heart! He "knoweth their down sitting and their uprising and understandeth their thoughts (even) afar off." Just tell Him what you would like Him to do for them, and let it go at that. It will go just as far and do just as well, and will have the much desired effect of abridging the prayer. When the centurion came to the Master for the cure of his servant, he did not waste time in telling Him where the servant was located, but that he wished Him to come and heal him.

There are lots of preachers, and laymen, too, who think that a prayer is simply a string of platitudes strung together, without regard to rhyme or reason, which is a mistake. Prayer is what the heart longs after and is addressed to Him who has the power to give, or withhold. I reckon I have said enough about this, so will quit for the present. There are several passages in this sermon that we would quote if we were sure you would read them, but we are not.

Following the sermon was an "Address of Welcome" by Brother Emmett Dickson, of the local Commandery, which was responded to by J. G. Warden John Greens Cramer. Both speeches are good and the word "hospitality" occurs in neither of them, which is pleasant.

The Grand Commander's address is a good one, though rather long, much of the length being the result of the incorporation into it of Inspector's Reports, a style we are not in love with. With equal propriety the reports of the Recorder and Treasurer might be made a part of the Grand Master's address. Let us have a change along here. He says: "We rejoice to-day in an unusual growth in our votaries—." We suppose that the characters of these new recruits are of so satisfactory a nature as to warrant this public expression of joy at their coming, but we doubt it. In this connection we note that one hundred and nineteen of them came in on the "Lightning Express Train," that is, they were balloted upon without delay and under dispensations from the Grand Commander.

These fellows remind us of a man on his death bed, who had wasted his life and dishonored God by a career of sin and wickedness and who are now anxious to throw the dregs of a misspent life into the face of a merciful and compassionate Saviour, and, through the mercy and compassion secure an entrance into a Heaven that they have forfeited all right to a thousand times.

Having read the advance sheets of our beloved Brother Woodruff's Report on Correspondence, he remarks: "It is gotten up in his usual style, which statement is sufficient, for it speaks of its completeness, its interest and its beneficial results and adds still greater lustre to the brilliant efforts of our honored and much beloved frater." In all of which we concur. It is better to tell him you appreciate him now, than to wait until he is dead, and he will enjoy it more, too.

He made no decisions; none asked for. His picture adorns the pamphlet. A handsome, good and pleasant face.

PROCEEDINGS.

These are of the usual routine character. Treasury balance, to the good, \$3,038.54. Total membership, 3,395, a gain of 229.

CORRESPONDENCE

Covers one hundred and fifteen pages, reviews the transactions of forty-seven Templar Grands, and is the thirty-third in regular succession of the Nestor of the Corps Reportorial, Charles R. Woodruff. It is need-

less for us to commend the work of our venerable Brother, as that work speaks for itself, louder and better than we can.

He gives our doings at Jaxson a couple of pages of kind and courteous attention. Says that Frank's address was short, calls "Fred" our dear old friend, etc., and has a kindly word for your distinguished Reporter, copies a part of our "prologue" and states that he is not in the habit of investigating the correctness, or otherwise, of the theology that comes to him from the pulpit, all of which is wrong. We are not that way. If a preacher is unorthodox in his dealing out the Gospel to us, or in our hearing, we have a right to make a fuss and correct the evil, if we can, if we cannot, like the Watchman on the walls, of whom Isaiah speaks, who has done his duty, "I have delivered my soul and am innocent of the blood of all men." While we are disposed to demur at some of his conclusions in the second paragraph, we copy his Conclusion in full:

With these closing lines our Thirty-third Annual Report on Correspondence is most cordially submitted to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kentucky, bearing with them the best wishes and kindest gratitude to all those Templars who may read them, with appreciation and the sincerest brotherly affection for all Knights of our beloved Order.

The Order of the Temple acquires, year by year, a remarkable increase in membership and wealth and influence with marked and tangible results for the betterment of those individuals brought within its sphere, to such an extent as to be known and read of all men.

With earnest thankfulness for the most delightful associations we have so long enjoyed with the Sir Knights in general, and the Correspondents in particular, we are, with courtesy, their debtor at last and ever their well wisher.

R. E. Sir Thomas A. Keith is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

LOUISIANA—1906.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of New Orleans, February 8th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir T. H. Scovall, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, Grand Recorder, all the other staff officers except three, the Prelate, the Standard Bearer and the Sword Bearer. Also ten Past Grand Commanders, a couple of Past Deputy Grand Commanders, four Past Grand Captain Generals, four Past Commanders, a lot of Grand Representatives, not including our's and Representatives from eight Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short, but well written resume of the salient points of his administration, in which we find nothing of startling interest to the outside world. We clip the following as being of importance. No one who has not passed through an epidemic of yellow fever can justly appreciate what it means, to the people as a mass, or to the individual sufferers.

The past year has indeed been one with great cares and trials for our people, and while our sorrows seemed heavy and at times the outlook seemed gloomy, still an all-wise providence has permitted us to emerge from great distress and assemble here in good health, and it is to be hoped in the greatest degree of happiness. Notwithstanding that practically half of the past year was spent in preventing the spread and in exterminating yellow fever, still our Order has flourished and increased numerically beyond our fondest expectations. Peace and harmony prevails throughout our entire jurisdiction. I congratulate you on the knightly good feeling which prevails upon every land. Success has crowned your efforts and our beloved Order has never before enjoyed that prosperity which the past year has yielded to it, and I am sure that the personal character and fitness of the material introduced into our several Subordinate Commanderies are beyond all criticism.

Proper mention is made of the knightly dead of the world, no names being given.

He stated that he had purchased a slice of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, N. Y., to be used as Headquarters on the occasion of the next Triennial blow-out. We suggest to our Pelican brethren that a Correspondence Report would be better than the hotel. It won't do a bit of good, however, mores the pity.

The proceedings were of the usual routine character and are devoid of general interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$1,650.00, which is pretty good: Total membership, 581, a gain of 15.

There is no Report on Correspondence.

R. E. Sir John B. Parker is Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Richard Lambert, Grand Recorder, of course.

MAINE—1906.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Portland, May 3d. There were present: R. E. Sir George C. Purington, Grand Commander, V. E. Sir Stephen Berry, Grand Recorder, fourteen Past Grand Commanders, two other Past Grand Officers, a multitude of Past Commanders, twenty-five Grand Representatives, not including our's, and delegates from twenty Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the R. E. covers eighteen pages, is well written, but devoid of interest to outsiders, except his prologue, which we copy:

As silently as the stars wheel their courses in the heavens have days and nights succeeded one another until the whole circle of the year has been completed and we are once more in this asylum to take counsel together that "Wisdom may be justified of her children," and to strengthen the ties of brotherhood that weary hearts may be lightened and faltering steps grow strong. We have listened to the tender voice of supplication of our Prelate, and he has wakened in our memories the sounds of other voices heard here "long since and lost awhile."

It is well to give pause in our busy life and listen to the echoes in our souls of those voices that make us

"Long for the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still."

An hour of retrospect is good for all. It is well for the farmer in "golden Autumn" to stand beside his heaped-up bins of golden grain and "take reckoning" of bountiful Nature. It is well for us in the quiet of this sacred asylum to shut out all sounds, even that of the voice that admonishes you, and each ask himself "What have I gained of good since last I sat here?" "Have I fed the soul that has been a-hungered for sympathy?" "Have I clothed the naked spirit of my unlovely brother that an unsympathetic world may not see his nakedness?" "Have I bound up the sores of the brother who has been scourged by the bitter whips of calumny, detraction, envy and ill-will?"

And again it may be well to close our eyes and see with the inner sight that beautiful temple, fair and white as the Taj Mahal, that has been builded the past year of noble thoughts and high aspirations, of kind deeds and generous sympathies, of charity and hospitality. White and fair is this temple you see, for the Great Architect stood by, and never a block with a stain or an imperfection could pass the inspection of his all-seeing eye. And you are glad it is so.

Most of the address is made up of reports of inspections made by him, and which, no doubt, resulted in benefit to all concerned.

He issued quite a number of dispensations, not one of which, however, was for "rapid transit" through the ballot box. They are great, up there, in the matter of visiting each other, and whenever one Commandery cuts a watermelon, or opens a keg of nails, she invites her neighbors to come "over into Macedonia and help us" eat them, all of which is exactly the right thing to do, but the doing of them should not be hampered by the necessity of securing a dispensation from "His Royal Nibs." Not only allow the different Commands to visit and mingle with each other, as often as possible, but encourage them to do so. Sociability among the members is in consonance with the basis of the Order, i. e., the Christian Religion, and should be encouraged always. There are lots of churches where the presence of this social spirit is sadly needed, but is conspicuously absent. There is about as much sociability and fraternity in an ordinary church as there would be in a cage full of kilkenny cats and about the same amount of godliness.

Let it be understood that we are unalterably opposed to the presence, at these functions of any sort of spirituous liquors, either wine or whiskey, as these handmaidens of the devil are out of place at a Templar banquet, or the stomach of a Christian gentleman. The R. E. seems to share, in a degree, these views of our's, as the following excerpt seems to indicate:

I cannot close my "suggestions for the good of the Order" without speaking of a waning custom that cannot too soon be wholly eliminated from Knights Templar occasions, and that is the use of any kind of intoxicants in or near the asylum at any meeting or observance of the Commandery, or upon any pilgrimage. I do not raise the question of individual right in such matters, but one man with the Passion Cross on his breast is one man plus a host of dead and living Knights who have taken vows, a fair interpretation of which binds a man to high living, and to do those things only that will help a weaker brother. Ten men gathered under yonder banner, or standing before the altar, or assembled in the ante rooms or banquet room of this Commandery are more than

ten men. They are ten men indissolubly bound to tens of thousands of other men in bonds that if observed will make them all better and happier men. I may go back into the forests, and if my taste leads me in that direction, may shout, and scream, and fire guns, and no one may question my right, though he may doubt my sanity. But let me do those things in the streets of this city and the police station will welcome me. I do not need to argue this point.

I am sure there are many Sir Knights here who will say that there has been a decided change for the better in our social customs for the last ten years. But there is still room for improvement in a few Commanderies, and the limit must surely have been reached when Sir Knights have their beer come marked by the name of their Commandery.

I respectfully urge the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers to present a standing regulation or statute covering the entire matter.

"All this we steadfastly believe." He reported having bought a slice of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, for next year.

The proceedings were of the usual routine character. Treasury balance, to the good, \$6,721.98; total membership, 4,625, a gain of 100.

Correspondence is the thirty-first offense in this line, of our Brother Stephen Berry, Grand Recorder, and covers about sixty pages, reviews briefly the doings of most the Templar governing bodies, Mississippi, at Brookhaven, included, in his usual courteous and instructive style. He opens as follows:

We have the honor of presenting our thirty-first annual report, having commenced in the centennial year. That stalwart band who have been with us and read them from the first will not deem them too many, for they have expressed the opinions that band has always held.

Another year! and how quickly the stream flows on.

"O! a wonderful stream is the river time,

As it runs through the realm of tears,
With a faultless rhythm and musical rhyme,
And a broader sweep and a surge sublime,
As it blends in the ocean of years.

"How the winters are drifting like flakes of snow,

And the summers like birds between;
And the years in the sheaf, how they come and go
On the river's breast with its ebb and flow,
As it glides in the shadow and sheen."

Few of us have escaped leaving our treasures on the magical isle up the river.

"And the name of the isle is the 'Long-ago,'

And we bury our treasures there;
There are brows of beauty and bosoms of snow,
There are heaps of dust—O, we loved them so!
There are trinkets and tresses of hair.

"There are fragments of songs and nobody sings,

There are parts of an infant's prayer;
There's a lute unswept and a harp without strings,
There are broken vows and pieces of rings,
And the gloves she used to wear."

But we must make the best of our time before we are swept into eternity. Queen Victoria said: "We must live as if we were immortal."

As the Knights of old closed up their ranks and charged again, so we must linger not to mourn over those who have gone down in the battle of life, but press forward to new duties, trusting our fate to the Captain of our Salvation.

He gives our pamphlet a little over two pages of polite and appreciated attention, for which we are obliged.

R. E. Sir George Gower is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MARYLAND—1905.

A Special Conclave was held in the city of Baltimore, March 1st, for the purpose of paying the last honors to R. E. William Henry Ruby, who passed to his reward on the 26th of February, ulto. Peace to his ashes, and may God comfort and help his loved ones left behind. Also one on the occasion of the funeral of P. G. C. C. W. Hatter, who departed this life April 14th. May he rest in peace.

The usual Special Conclave, for installation of officers of the Subordinate Commanderies was held in the city of Baltimore, on Easter Monday, April 24th.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Baltimore, on Tuesday, November 28th. There were present: R. E. Sir Summerfield Berry, Grand Commander, Sir John H. Miller, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers except two, Sd. Bearer and Capt. of the Guard, twenty-nine Grand Representatives, fifteen Past Grand Commanders, several other Past Grand Officers and Representatives from thirteen Subordinate Commanderies, together with a multitude of Past Commanders.

The address of the Grand Commander is a complete epitome of the salient features of a successful administration, which he claims, in the first paragraph of the paper, he undertook with much solicitude and doubt as to his ability to manage the concern, according to Hoyle, and intimates that but for the loyal support and assistance of his staff, it is doubtful if he had been able to pull through. His modesty bespeaks his merit, and, from the specimens he shows in his report, we are convinced that he could have run the machine entirely alone. Modesty being our ruling trait, we are partial to those who carry a considerable line of this commodity in stock, so Brother Berry suits us.

As a literary production the address is first-class, but we find nothing of importance to outsiders in it. He made no decisions, issued no dispensations to rush the ballot, but wore out that poor old word, "Pilgrimage" under the head of "Courtesies." Up in that neck of woods, every time a Commandery moves from the Asylum into the Prelate's apartment, they call it a "Pilgrimage," all of which makes us tired. He is particularly partial to religious services on Ascension Day, and minutely

describes the manner in which the day was observed under his administration. "One man esteemeth one day above another, another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." Said Saul, of Tarsus. A certain Sky Pilot said to me, in substance, that he dare not preach from the above text, for the reason that the Apostle put, or intended to put, the Sabbath on a parity with other holy days! This sort of theology tires us even more than the use of the words, "Pilgrimage," "Invade," and so on.

It is our opinion that when a man can't understand the scripture better than that, he ought to go at something else besides preaching.

The proceedings are devoid of special interest. The Order is in good shape in that Bailiwick. Treasury balance, to the good, \$1,553.23; total membership, 1,545, a gain of 56.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the seventh offense, along these lines, of our good Brother Miller, Grand Recorder, and is up to the standard of the other six, which were all good. The report covers eighty-six pages and reviews, intelligently and instructively, the proceedings of most of the Templar legislative bodies of the world, Mississippi, at Jaxson, getting courteous and pleasant notice. He calls Frank's address a most excellent paper, and has this to say of the production of your distinguished Reporter:

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Past Grand Commander E. G. DeLap and covers eighty-one pages. He hopes to see the former ritual of the Order of the Red Cross, that was in use prior to the last revision, restored, or the *degree* turned over to the Council of Royal and Select Master Masons. His report, as usual, is very spicy and splendid reading, and liable to drive away the blues of any one who has a liver in any kind of working order.

In speaking of us, he says, "Our Brother gets up a comprehensive and instructive report, but there is a paucity of original matter that we do not like." We are sorry, but we don't see how we can help it, when there is nothing much doing in the Templar world of a strictly original character to excite either favorable or unfavorable comment. It reminds us of the Philadelphia editor that was requested by an old lady residing in New Jersey to stop her paper, as it contained no more accounts of murders. He told her to hold on a little while longer, as he was just about to send out some murderers and she might look for news from them most any day. Sure enough, there were two or three murders within the next few days, and the old lady no doubt fully believed to her dying day that the editor had fulfilled his promise to the letter. So, all we want, my dear Frater, is something original to review, and we will endeavor to give you some original matter for criticism.

He also excerpts a portion of Our Fred's remarks in regard to the Grand Encampment, appended to our report of last year and says:

"There is no doubt in the world that the Grand Encampment code requires revision, so as to eliminate all conflicting statutes, some of which

we mention in our review of Arizona, page 6, and we hope the committee for revision may be appointed at Saratoga. Not to add to, mind you, but to revise and reconstruct, so as to make them plain and intelligent to all. We would also suggest the preparation of another index, as the one published with the code of Statutes is as good as none."

R. E. Sir D. J. Emich is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND—1905.

A ponderous tome of over four hundred pages, contains the proceedings of this imperial jurisdiction, both semi-annual and annual communications.

The Ninety-ninth Semi-Annual Conclave was held in the city of Providence, May 18th. The attendance was large and the proceedings of the usual routine character. Grand Commander Sir Dana J. Flanders presided. His address was voluminous, but confined to local matters. He issued ten dispensations, but none for "Rapid Transit." Appropriate tribute is paid to the memory and merit of the knightly dead, and the list is a long one. We copy his remarks, in introducing the subject, as they are really beautiful and quite different from the usual run of these things:

The hand of the unseen and unwelcome messenger has not been staid, and it is with sorrow that I record the visits of that always dreaded guest, who, while performing his natural functions of gathering dust to dust and opening the gate for his victims to fairer and better conditions, yet is depriving us who are left of friends upon whom we have learned to rely and whose presence has become a seeming necessity of our lives. We give them up with sorrow and tears and regrets, turning to Him who doeth all things well, and who has inspired in us a faith and hope that sometime, somewhere, we shall meet them and know that it is well.

The one hundreth anniversary of this Grand Body was held in the city of Boston on May 24th, and was a most interesting occasion. "The proceedings of this celebration consisted of a grand parade and review of the forty-six Commanderies comprising the jurisdiction of Massachusetts and Rhode Island." Several speeches were made, appropriate to the occasion and our brethren of the Bay State and little Rhody had a good time.

The One hundredth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island was held in the city of Boston, October 31st. There were present: R. E. Sir Dana J. Flanders, Grand Commander, E. Sir Benjamin W. Rowell, Grand Recorder, all the other members of the official staff, fifteen Past Grand Commanders, a number of distinguished visitors from other Jurisdictions, a multitude of Past Commanders and Representatives from all the Subordinate Commanderies, forty-six in number.

The Grand Commander's address is comparatively short, many of the salient features of his administration having been reported at the semi-annual Conclave. Both addresses, however, are devoid of outside interest, being largely concerned with matters connected with the celebration of the centennial of the organization of the Body.

We note that, among his dispensations, two were for allowing a couple of his Subordinates to go on pilgrimage, probably in search of the "Holy Grail." It will be a happy day for this scribe, when they, at last, find it and he is relieved from the incubus on his good nature in the shape of the word "Pilgrimage." There never has been a word so badly and inappropriately used, as that same, poor, old "Pilgrimage," and it is about time that it should have a rest.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest, mostly. The Grand Recorder's report covers a lot of space, being very much like those of our lamented Brother Power, some years ago. He reports a total membership of 14,829, a net gain of 389. Total number of Templars in the United States, 156,746, a net gain over last year of 9,056. Quite a respectable army and a formidable one, if it could only handle its "trusty claymores" so as to hurt the enemy instead of its friends! If Cornelius, of Montana, could take the crowd over and take Palestine away from the "unspeakable Turk," it would be nice, but the only way to make it an "effective force" will be to take away the swords and give them muskets. Their swords would not scare a rabbit and Cornelius ought to know it. They can handle them all right when they go to church with them "strapped to their sides," but in such a religious war as would follow the invasion of Palestine, they would not be worth shucks.

The Grand Treasurer reports a cash balance to the good of \$2,508.78. The investments of what they call "The Grand Fund" amounts, in the aggregate to \$29,859.28, so you will see that they are, what might be called, well to do, in the matter of assets.

The pamphlet is embellished with numerous engravings, of the scenes, incidents and participants in the parade on the occasion of the Centennial of the Grand Body.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the finished ashlar of our friend and Reverened Brother Henry W. Rugg, P. G. C., and reviews in his usual didactic and entertaining style, the proceedings of nearly all the Templar families of the world, Mississippi at Jaxson getting courteous notice in three and a half pages. As his "Opening Chorus" has something to say of the Centennial, we copy it entire:

In beginning this report the present writer is conscious of a special motive and inspiration. He recalls with grateful feeling the recent observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and he rejoices with the Sir Knights to whom this paper is addressed that the centennial celebration of May 24, 1905, was successful in all its features.

It is gratifying to note the fact that the oldest Grand Body of Masonic Knighthood on this continent has fittingly observed its centennial anniversary. The conditions were favorable for an expression of Masonic Templary in this jurisdiction, and a right use was made of the opportunity and the occasion.

We were fortunate in having at the head of our Grand Commandery, at such a time, a Sir Knight able and tactful in the direction of affairs, to whom special credit is due for the success which crowned the celebration; and we were fortunate also in having other Grand Officers, zealous and efficient, who responded to his every call for service. But it was still more fortunate for the purposes of the centennial celebration that the hearty co-operation of the forty-six Commanderies of the Jurisdiction, and of Sir Knights generally, was enlisted in the movement to suitably observe so memorable an epoch.

That notable celebration has gone into history. It served to express in several ways the strength and resources of the Templar Order in the two States which from the first have been united in one and the same organic life. It served to emphasize anew the purposes and principles of Templary, as it naturally brought to mind the story of former days connected with the rise and progress of the Order—days grandly illumined by the faithful labors of those who were leaders and builders in their own time of activity and responsibility.

And the anniversary served to mark the contrast between the early and the later period, and to make impressive the growth and prosperity which have attended the Templar Order in recent years. Templary in this Jurisdiction has an honorable history. It has had influence from the very beginning of its organic life. It has flourished even under adverse conditions. But within the last two or three decades there has been a forward movement as by wondrous strides. Our centennial festival has been a reminder of this remarkable progress—that we have now come to stand upon the heights, where we are established upon a strong foundation, where the air is invigorating, and where the prospect is broad and glorious.

The Templar Order throughout the land now holds an assured position of honor and of usefulness. We rejoice together in its occupancy of so broad and so inviting a field. The Sir Knights of Massachusetts and Rhode Island touch hands and hearts with Sir Knights in all sister Jurisdictions, appreciative of the thrill of fraternal feeling which thus goes forth, and no less conscious, it is to be hoped, of those new incentives to aspiration and to service which present themselves in this latest and best period of human progress.

Thus may a reviewer's pen be put to hopeful, wholesome use.

He copies a part of Sir Speed's report, as Grand Recorder, prefacing the excerpt in these words: Past Grand Commander Frederic Speed, now Grand Recorder, made a report of four closely printed pages, which will be widely read, for Sir Knight Speed wields a vigorous pen and whatever he writes is worth reading. He is critical when remarking upon the spectacular features of the San Francisco Triennial, albeit he was not there to gather first-hand impressions. He says that 'possibly if there had been less pageantry and good fellowship, more attention would have been given the object for which the Grand Encampment exists—the welfare of the Order.'

Following the quotation, these:

The report from which we have quoted the foregoing is too long to be reproduced here. In some respects it is suggestive, opening up ques-

tions of large import; but it seems to your Correspondent to be an over-statement. Whatever the tendencies to undue militarism may be in the Templar Order, we do not regard them as being formidable and dangerous to such an extent as does Past Grand Commander Speed. We wish to believe that sensible men who have the highest interests of Masonic Templary at heart are still influential in the affairs of Grand Encampment, and that good care will be taken that the Order, now so strong as represented by the general governing body, shall not drift on the Scylla of anarchy or the Charybdis of despotism.

Of our report he says:

Past Grand Commander Enoch George DeLap writes the Report on Correspondence. It covers eighty-one printed pages, all readable and suggestive, some delightfully entertaining and others richly instructive.

We are not ungrateful, but the contrary. There are lots of good things in Brother Rugg's report, but we feel that we have given that Jurisdiction their full share of space, so will say, good-bye, and God bless you, to them.

R. E. Sir Edwin A. Blodgett is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MICHIGAN—1906.

The Fiftieth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Detroit, June 12th. Present: R. E. Sir Frank C. Holmes, Grand Commander; E. Sir Hy. L. Anthony, Grand Recorder, twenty-one Past Grand Commanders, a multitude of Past Commanders, and Representatives from forty-six out of forty-seven Subordinate Commanderies.

Grand Master Moulton was present and received with proper honors.

The Grand Commander's address is comparatively short, for a semi-centennial year, but covers the ground. It is largely made up of copies of General Orders, letters, etc. We clip from his "Opening Chorus:"

Once again through the tender mercies of a kind and beneficent Providence are we assembled in fraternal union. It is with feelings of no ordinary nature that I greet and welcome you to this "Golden Jubilee," the Fiftieth Annual Conclave of this Grand Body. Like the ever flowing river just in sight, which forms the boundary line and separates the two mightiest nations of the earth, so the river of time has flown through another annual cycle of our existence and separated the past from the future of our Eternity. It is meet at this time that we bow in recognition to the Power that has preserved our lives, and lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving to the Grand Master of the Universe for his great mercy in permitting so many of us once more to clasp hands as brothers under the standard of our Order, the Banner of the Cross.

While the past year will always be remembered as one of the most memorable of the earth's history, marking as it does the close of a mighty war between two of the great nations of the far East, the destructive eruption of Mount Vesuvius, and the terrible calamity that

befell our sister State, California, bringing sorrow, suffering and death to so many people, we have been mercifully spared and have great reason for praise and thanksgiving to Him "whose ways we do not always understand," yet "who doeth all things well."

Proper tribute is paid to the memory and merits of the knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. Peace to their ashes.

He made no decisions, but granted the usual number of dispensations, none of them, however, to ballot out of time, all these he refused. We note, with a feeling of profound regret, that the Grand Commander of Wisconsin, our natal State, asked for and obtained permission for one of his subordinates to INVADE the Wolverine bailiwick! This thing if persisted in, is certain to result tragically and it should be stopped!

He made quite a batch of official visits, which, possibly, resulted in good, at least we will indulge that hope. A portrait of the author makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet. A magnificent looking man and gentleman.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were of the usual routine character, and contain nothing of special moment to outsiders. The Grand Recorder reported a total membership of 7,004, a net gain of 115. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$7,051.25. We clip what follows in regard to our old and well loved friend, Past Grand Master Hugh McCurdy, who has for many years, held the position of Morning and Evening Star, in the Templar firmament of that State.

Known by Masons and Templars everywhere, and honored and loved wherever known, it is sad, indeed, to realize that his earthly course is so nearly run. The first among his equals, his place in the Orders of Masonry and Templary will be exceptionally hard to fill, if filled it ever is. God bless the Grand Old Man and make his last days on earth the brightest, happiest and best of all the years of his useful and honored life. Here is the excerpt:

Past Grand Master Hugh McCurdy, who for twenty-nine years had installed the officers-elect, recognizing his inability to do so owing to his weakened physical condition, asked to be excused from the long-accustomed duty.

The Right Eminent invited the Venerable Frater to address the Grand Commandery. Just prior thereto they were called to their feet and stood with uncovered heads and reverently listened to the feebly articulated words of the distinguished and greatly esteemed Frater. As the address proceeded tears were in every eye. He said in part:

"Twenty-five years ago," he said, "I first installed into the office of Grand Chaplain of this Grand Commandery, our late friend and lamented Frater, Rev. Francis A. Blades. Those of you who were here last year must perform that duty. But to-day he is gone, and I am still here."

Continuing, he spoke of the pleasant association of the past with others who had been prominent in the work of the Grand Commandery, but had been called to their reward. He then eulogized the institution and made an effective plea for all to more nearly live up to the principle of the fraternity.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the eighth offense, in regular succession of Grand Recorder Anthony and, like its predecessors from the same distinguished source, is a good one, covering, as it does, one hundred and eight pages, and digesting the transactions of forty-four Templar legislative bodies, Mississippi, at Brookhaven, getting a trifle over two pages of polite attention.

Under Connecticut we find these words of wisdom:

"The Grand Commander very properly resents the criticism made upon their action in the celebration of Good Friday by, we think, Sir Henry H. Ingersoll, of Tennessee, although no names are mentioned. The point in the criticism is made that it is a day of fasting and prayer, and that anything in the way of social entertainment, closing with a banquet is sinful and unholy.

"The thought occurs to us that if the theological scheme of salvation be true, then, indeed, should Good Friday be a day of rejoicing and gladness, for on that day was finally accomplished the plan whereby man was redeemed from his sins and again came in possession of the heritage he had lost.

"The correspondent asks: 'Is it good form to frolic at a funeral?' Ordinarily we should say not; but in the case under consideration, we look upon it in an entirely different light. While the Saviour of men went to his death to redeem humanity, yet in three days he sprang forth into life, conqueror over death, and in due time, the story goes, 'ascended with transcendent majesty into heaven,' becoming an intercessor on behalf of the children of earth. Why, therefore, should it not be considered and treated as a day of rejoicing? Let us as Templars not attempt to be overpious; but rather, high-toned, honorable gentlemen, such as all the world may see and emulate."

In all of which we concur. Our Brother Henry notes about all that we do, but makes no comments. He devotes considerable space to a review of our report, opening on us as follows:

The noted DeLap of Reportorial fame, presents the report in much the same humorous vein that crops up in all his writing, although we note there is not quite so much "ginger" in it as usual, owing, we doubt not, to the haunting dread of yellow fever which, at the time the report was written, threatened to become epidemic. Happily through the courage and scientific skill of our Southern brethren, aided by those appointed by the President, that calamity was averted.

Regarding "Our Brother in Black" and what has passed between our Brother Babb (of Iowa), and ourselves on this subject, he remarks:

"Last year, under the head of Pennsylvania, Brother De Lap advanced the idea that the negro was not a descendant of Adam, but was simply a connecting link between man and the brute creation, and was in no sense a sharer in the theological plan of redemption provided for so-called fallen man. Brother Babb criticised his theories sharply and in the present volume he again defends his theory in a two-page article. As a literary production and a Biblical argument we should be glad to copy it entire, but must content ourselves with the following, as a fair sample:

"We beg to assure our good Brother that we are not 'sitting in judgment on any human soul' and we do not intend to do so, as it is entirely out of our line of business. A verdict of a jury is based, primarily, on the evidence produced for and against the culprit at the bar, but the matter of reward or punishment, as the case may be, rests with the court. However, it is too hot to go into particulars or discuss the matter further, so we leave it, for the present." We copy his "Conclusion:"

As we have finished the work of review and are ready to pen our conclusion, comes the appalling news of the disaster that has overwhelmed the city of San Francisco and surrounding towns. Coming so soon after the triumphant conclusion of the Forty-ninth Triennial, when their magnificent reception and treatment met the applause of the world, and now so soon to be practically swept off the earth and the once beautiful city become dust and ashes, it seems too dreadful a situation to be true. Surely our illustrious Grand Master was endowed with more prophetic vision when he exclaimed, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." Those who revel in all the luxury which wealth can bestow to-day, may become homeless and penniless wanderers to-morrow. No such catastrophe, appalling in its magnitude, has ever before been visited upon our country. We earnestly hope and feel sure that Templars everywhere will respond to the call of distress as nobly as they have done in the past. Even while we write, comes a telegram from our Grand Commander, directing us to wire at once an appeal for help. That the call will not go unheeded, we surely know.

Only a few days prior to the overshadowing calamity, one of the great dailies of San Francisco, in commenting upon the splendid future in store for their city, said: "Our destiny is upon us. We cannot escape it. San Francisco has an impetus that nothing can check." How little they then realized that in a few short days their prophesy of a glorious future would be swept away in a holocaust of flame.

"The nice laid plans of mice and men gang aft a'glee." Taking courage, furnished them by the splendid example of other cities we have no doubt, after having recovered from the crushing blow, they will rebuild their city on a broader and better foundation than ever before, in which the Templars will do their full share.

"Look not mournfully into the Past, it comes not back again; wisely improve the Present, it is thine; go forth to meet the shadowy Future without fear and with a manly heart."

R. E. Sir Joseph H. Crawford is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

MINNESOTA—1906.

The Forty-first Annual Conclave was held in the city of St. Paul, April 25th. Present: R. E. Sir Edward P. Sanborn, Grand Commander, E. Sir E. M. Van Cleve, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Prelate, eleven Past Grand Commanders, twenty-one Grand Representatives, not including our's, a lot of Past Commanders and Representatives from twenty-six out of the twenty-nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing out of the usual course. Reference was made to the San Francisco horror and \$300 appropriated to the relief of the stricken ones. He issued the regular allowance of dispensations to ballot on the jump, which has our endorsement.

He reported that he had purchased a slice of the Grand Union Hotel at Saratoga. Parlor, \$24.00; seven sleeping rooms, accommodating two persons, at \$6.00, including board for each occupant, or \$12.00 per diem for each room. This foots up \$96.00 for the parlor and \$336.00 for the sleeping and eating for four days. Total, \$436.00.

Judas Iscariot said, on a certain occasion, "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief and carried the bag and bare what was put therein."

Now without endorsing the conduct of Judas, or being at all like him, as the sacred text there describes him, we respectfully, yet courteously, suggest that there are hundreds of thousands of dollars wasted, many of them worse than wasted, at these Triennial blow-outs that might do a world of good if diverted in the direction indicated by Judas, hence we would be glad to see the Grand Encampment do away with all this fuss and feathers, meet for, transact its business and adjourn. As it now is, the body simply meets for a picnic, to which all Templars are invited, who have or who are able to borrow enough money to take the Triennial trip, and there is nothing done for the good of the Order or the furtherance of its fundamental principles. We are well aware that we are likely to be very lonesome while occupying this advanced picket post, but that makes not the slightest difference to us. We do our own thinking, and shall continue to do so, as long as the Lord lets us stay down here.

As it is pretty tolerably hot, we will dismiss the subject, until some crank knocks the above chip off our shoulder.

He made but one decision: That a Companion, R. A. M., who had lost his right arm is ineligible for the Orders of Knighthood. Correct, if there is nothing considered but the military side of the Institution. There are some men that we would be glad to see in the Order, if they had neither arms nor legs.

His phiz adorns the pamphlet. A good face.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Balance to the good, in Grand Treasury, \$6,431.90, \$3,500 of which is in bonds. Total membership, 3,435, a gain of 176.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the second offense, in regular order, of Grand Recorder, Edward M. Van Cleve, covers over one hundred pages of the pamphlet, reviews the minutes of nearly the entire list of Templar Grands, and is a good one, in all respects. Like our beloved Cornelius, of Montana, he discards the shears and paste pot, to the evident benefit of his readers, and to his

own loss of time and increase of labor. These are the best sort of reports, but the hardest to get up, hence we adopt, for the latter reason, the use of the shears and paste pot.

We used to live on a farm and had to turn the crank of a fanning mill, occasionally. We did not like that any more than we do to fan a few grains of wheat out of a ton of chaff, hence the difference between our plan and that of our brethren, Cornelius and Edward. Both plans were adopted and our readers can take their choice.

Brother Van devotes nearly three pages of his report to our doings at Brookhaven, treats us all kindly and flatters your distinguished committee, to some extent. He has a word to say about everything we did, notes Brother Dixon's construction of the law of the Grand Encampment and expresses his gratification that some one has been able to construe some sense out of it, and suggests the probability that he will, himself, offer such an amendment as will make the laws of that body a little clearer than mud. We hope he will, but if he does, he will be "sat on" with a dull thud, as it is not the custom of that concern to adopt sensible or timely suggestions or amendments. Not much, Mary Ann! Quoting G. C. Dixon's remark, in reference to the redoubtable Frederic: "As a Grand Recorder he has no equals and few superiors" he asks, "Did he mean it?" We beg to suggest, in reply, that there is a "goak" concealed in the sentence, which Van has probably taken as earnest, which it is, in so far as commendation of Fred goes, but the thing was put in in that shape just to see how many of you people would see the "pint."

We copy his reference to our report, because—we wish to do so, and for the purpose of protesting against his putting the cart before the horse, when writing our name, "George Enoch." Heavens! Can such things be and not excite our ire? Don't repeat the offense, Edward, or there will be trouble. Just put it "E. G." which stands "for example" and is very appropriate. But here is the clipping:

R. E. Sir Knight George Enoch De Lap writes sixty-eight pages of Fraternal Correspondence. He says in opening: "It is possible that there have been reports of this character written that surpass this one, but he doubts it." With this characteristically modest introduction he cuts loose in his usual vein. Frater De Lap's correspondence is always worth reading, *all* of it, and we'd like to go through with it *all*. But our Grand Conclave is only seven days ahead of us and there's lots to do. Minnesota gets three full pages of kindly mention. Past Grand Commander Buck's address is called "a well and carefully written resume of a most successful administration." His portrait is called "a fine frontispiece to the pamphlet. A good face and a long head. There are indications, however, that he has had domestic troubles, as he is as bald as a billiard ball on the top of his head." "Domestic troubles" had no part in creating the "skating rink" referred to. Knowing our Past Grand Commander as we do, we are inclined to the opinion that the loss of his hair was due to his worrying over the troubles of others and thinking what good he could do for his fellow men. Brother De Lap's kindly forbearance and courteous comment on our "first offense" as a Correspondent is gratefully received. As to the "shears" we are still of the opinion that the "pencil" is better, and are moreover firmly convinced

that it would be very unsafe for a beginner to use the paste pot. There is so much that is good that he wouldn't know when to stop. As to "titles" we have concluded to join Frater White of Nebraska and leave the subject for the wise men to settle. We're not at all particular; we can't agree with Frater Mayo of Missouri or Frater De Lap in this matter and we *won't* quarrel with them—so *there*. Brother De Lap's welcome to the newcomer is most hearty and cordial and he has our sincere thanks.

As it is very hot, we will say, Good-bye to Minnesota and Brother Van.

R. E. Sir Charles L. West is Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Thomas Montgomery, our old and valued friend, is again in harness as Grand Recorder and Correspondent. We part with regret with Brother Van, but welcome our Brother Tho's. back to his old place.

MISSOURI—1906.

The Forty-fifth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Joplin, May 22d. Present: R. E. Sir Wm. H. Hutters, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir W. H. Mayo, Grand Recorder; all the balance of the staff, nine Past Grand Commanders, twenty-one Grand Representatives, not including our's, and Representatives from fifty-six Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a complete resume of a successful and creditable administration, but is devoted, mostly, to matters of local interest.

He granted a multitude of dispensations and along all lines, from one for a new Commandery down to the old "rapid transit" sort. He also refused to grant several, for, what seemed to him, to be good and sufficient reasons, but we would have allowed the "boys" to do as they pleased. He made no decisions. He closes with a recommendation to the Knights of his command, fidelity to the principles and vows of Christian Knighthood. His portrait makes an admirable frontispiece to the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest, if we except the matter of their Masonic Home, which is a credit alike to their benevolence and Christian character.

The Secretary of the Board reported receipts as follows: From Grand Lodge of Missouri, per capita tax, \$19,571.50; from the same source, for "Old People's Building," \$10,000; from Grand Chapter, for Old People's building, \$10,000, and from Grand Chapter Order Eastern Star, \$2,000. Total, \$41,589.45, from these three sources. Disbursements, from September 1, 1905, to March 31, 1906, \$44,879.58, which includes \$23,629.27 paid for the "Old People's Building." We note that the items groceries, meats and vegetables for that six months amounted to \$6,014.65; dry goods clothing and shoes, \$1,876.38; for fuel, lights and ice, \$1,841.53; for hired help, \$1,820.75, and for examining secretary and treasurer's books and accounts, \$40. From the above data you will see that it costs something to run a Masonic Home, as well as a hotel. It will surprise some of our enthusiastic supporters of the proposition to immediately commence

business in our's, with the pittance we have in hand, when I tell you that it costs all this money to take care of 151 inmates, old and young. There's an endowment fund of \$106,148.34 and a clientage of near 80,000 Masons of all grades.

Grand Treasurer reports receipts of \$6,423.30, disbursements \$6-301.30, and balance remaining in treasury of \$4,938.67. They seem to cut the garment according to the amount of cloth they have on hand, which is the only correct way to do things.

Total membership, 5,419, a gain 'of 131. We note, with pleasure, that they have rented thirteen rooms in the "Grand Union Hotel" at Saratoga for the Triennial occasion. The price is not stated.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the twenty-ninth in regular succession of Grand Recorder Mayo, and, like its predecessors from the same distinguished source, is a good one. Forty-five Templar legislatures are carefully reviewed, i. e., their journals of proceedings are, and those who have sense enough to read the report will find it profitable. Mississippi, at Jaxson, receives courteous and kind attention, in about two pages. He quotes Brother Burkett's remarks in regard to dispensations, and observes: "The hedges did not seem to be very high, nor difficult to get over, judging from the above." He then remarks: "No mention is made, whatever, of Christmas, Easter Sunday or Ascension Day observances, etc." After which he calls Fred to the front with this query: What is the matter with "Our Fred?" Could he not let go his "knocking" against the Grand Encampment long enough to get up a good Christmas, Easter or Ascension service, and be a good Episcopalian, too?" It is in order for us to observe that there is no doubt about Fred's ability to get up a first-class ritual for these occasion, or anything else, but we demur to the proposition that Fred is, at all, good. He is a great hand at ritualism, but that sort of thing don't cut any ice in the "Last Great Day."

He copies a part of our prologue, in regard to "Revised Versions" of the scripture and the Red X. and comments as follows:

What about our vaunted assertions that "Freemasonry is a progressive science?" What about our boasted advance and improvement in everything? Evolution is the LAW in everything. Our laws, our practice of medicine and surgery, our religions, give us more evolution, more revisions of our Scriptures, of all Scriptures, of all Ritualism, and everything else, as we advance, as we develop into higher and better lives and need these improvements.

It is all right, Brother Mayo, to progress, evolve, have the best survive, but it is not in order to advance the proposition that it is possible to improve upon the work of God Almighty, as creation, all that we see about us and above us, in the boundless realm of space, proclaim the perfection of His work. This remark is more particular in its reference, to the "Plan of Salvation" and the religion of our Lord.

So long as our progressive friends let these things alone and refrain from destroying, without improving, the sense, or the beauty of the text of the St. James version, it is all right, but when a little five-cent-water-melon-headed Sky Pilot discovers that there is something wrong in the common interpretation of the fundamental principles of the religion of our Fathers, it is time to call a halt and request them to "Go away back and sit down" and sit there until they get sense enough to come in when it rains.

We are inclined to fear that our good brother William is entirely too "progressive."

We read, the other day, what purported to be a letter from the late Robert Ingersoll. It was dated from Hades and, if genuine, shows clearly that he had "progressed" into hell. He claims, in the letter, that Beecher, Moses and several others whose names are familiar in the Christian world, are down there and that they were daily expectin Talmadge to arrive. He also states that the devil had taken a fancy to him, had relieved Beecher from the charge of the New York colony, (The largest there, except St. Louis,) and put him in his place. He also states that there was a political upheaval, or revolution in progress and they were trying to oust Belzebub and put either Judas Iscariot or John Smith in his place. As the letter was dated two years ago and there have been no further advices, it is likely that Bob lied. As that dismal place is the headquarters of mendacity, it is not a matter to wonder at if he did.

Our heart is saddened by the thought that this is our good brother, friend, mentor and all round grand man's last report, for the present at least. He is worn out and needs rest, after thirty years of most efficient and faithful service. His place, in the literature of the Order, will be hard to fill. God bless and keep him unto Eternal Life. We excerpt what follows, from his "Conclusion:"

Thirty years continuous service in this line of work will bring a rich fund of information and knowledge to the storehouse of the observing reader and painstaking writer. The many styles, the characteristics and changes that have occurred among the corps of correspondents and the Grand Jurisdictions themselves during that period would furnish material for quite an interesting volume.

Twenty-six out of forty-five Grand Commanderies publish a full roster or list of names of all Knights Templars in their jurisdictions, why? We never have been able to understand, as this is very expensive work, we do not see the utility of it more than once every five or ten years if then; publishing such a list every year is certainly an excellent guide for and of great use to peddlers of books, periodicals or other merchandise and of great service to traveling sponges and sharp, shrewd dead beats, imposters, etc.

Masonic Homes are becoming more numerous and better cared for, and are pointed to with just pride as a truly practical exemplification of the lessons taught in our Asylums.

Observance of Christmas day and Ascension day services as prescribed by the rules and usages of the Order, are dying out, either from the evolution of thought, and belief in such doctrines or from a desire not to be disturbed in their ease, personal comforts and enjoyments or lack of time from daily avocations of the average Knight Templar.

Interchange of courtesies, visitations of Grand and General Grand Officers, eloquent speeches, great show of pomp and ceremonial, parades, reviews, banquets and all such are becoming more frequent, more extensive and more interesting to the outside world as well as to Knight Templars.

The best reports on correspondence, and the best writers of such reports during the past quarter of a century, are and have been from the brains and pens of men who are not dependent upon the mere pittance usually paid for such work, or those who are not dependent upon salaries as Secretary or Recorder and have to cater to the varying whims of his bosses, and who dare not express his views, what he knows to be right, but instead deals in glittering generalities and often flattery, when away down in his inner consciousness he knows better from experience and coming in frequent contact with the biggest, brainiest men of the Order. The strongest and most forcible writers, who write and have written for the best interests of the Order are such men as Carson of Ohio, Smith of Illinois, Babb of Iowa, Rugg of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, DeLap of Mississippi, Hodson of Oregon, Ingersoll of Tennessee, and others well known to the well informed Masonic reader.

Finally, after thirty years of continuous active service in the field of labor among our Masonic brethren, devoting our time and life almost exclusively and conscientiously to what was considered their best interests, we step aside and give place to other and newer hands. We know that we have made mistakes, it is only admitting that we are human. We have done the very best we could under all the circumstances and environments, we must now in the near future close up our affairs and go away to take a long much needed rest.

With the best wishes for the abundant success of our successor and bespeaking for him the same kind consideration that has been shown us, with malice toward none and hearty good will and best wishes for all.

R. E. Sir Campbell Wells is Grand Commander; E. Sir Robert F. Stevenson, Grand Recorder and Correspondent, we suppose, although the fact is not stated.

----- MONTANA—1906.

The Nineteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Helena, Sept. 17th. There were present, R. E. Sir Emil H. Renisch, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Cornelius Hedges, Grand Recorder; all the rest of the staff, save the Grand Sword and Standard Bearers; ten Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, twenty Grand Representatives, including Brother McCaw for Mississippi, and the Representatives from twelve Subordinate Commanderies. On Sunday evening, preceding the opening of the Grand Body, its members and a lot of other people attended divine service, and heard a good sermon, so Cornelius says, from the Grand Prelate. As it is not published, we are unable to tell whether the aforesaid Cornelius is a good judge of this sort of thing, or not.

The Grand Commander's address, while well written, is devoid of interest to outsiders. He visited round considerably, and found the Order in a fairly prosperous condition. He issued but two dispensations; one to escort the Grand Lodge, the other to rush things through on the "Fast Mail," which was all right. No decisions. He lugs in the hateful word, "Templarism" in his opening chorus, which we regret. His

portrait, which makes a nice frontispiece to the pamphlet, shows him to be too sensible a man to use such a word, unless under strong excitement, or temporary aberration of mind. He pays proper tribute to the memory and merit of the magnanimous dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions.

He takes the trouble, if trouble it was, to thank Grand Recorder Cornelius, pat him on the back and tell him that he is a good fellow, which was the right thing to do. We are glad to see this, another instance where a man is commended before he is dead. If the practice became universal and superceded the epitaph trade, there would be a rise in the veracity market and fewer lies in our cemeteries and on our tomb stones. All the subordinates, except two, took the Xmas libation, the total participating, being one hundred and ninety-eight, or less than one third of the total membership.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were of the usual routine style of architecture. It seems that they are starting in on a Masonic Home venture, and Cornelius suggests the possibility of its being under way before the next meeting, and that it would be as well for the Grand Body to take some stock in the movement. Judging of the numerical strength of Masonry, in that bailiwick, from the number of Templars, seven hundred, it strikes us that the Home will have but a precarious hold on life, unless the brethren are richer and more liberal than they are in "this neck of woods." Homes are good things, but you can't start one on buncombe or maintain it on wind, so go slow.

The treasury contained a cash balance of \$1,648.62 in the General Fund, and \$611.61 in the "Triennial Fund." Total membership, 705, a gain of forty.

CORRESPONDENCE

Covers only sixty-five pages, reviews the doings of most of the Templar Grands, and is the perfect ashlar of the first, last and only Cornelius, (Hedges) and, like all his works of this sort, is perfect in all its parts and complete as a whole. What we do not understand is the absence of Mississippi from this report, as he must have received our pamphlet long before his report went to the "printery." This is one of "Fred's" words, the origin of which is buried in obscurity, or somewhere else. It is a good, euphonious word, has a toney sound about it that we like, hence we use it. It is barely possible that this same Fred is to blame for the absence of our proceedings from Cornelius' report, but as he would deny it, if charged with the crime, we will close the deal.

Brother Cornelius labored under the handicap of severe illness during the preparation of his report, as will be seen in his "Conclusion." He has our sincere sympathy and we are grateful to the "Father of Mercies" for his convalescence and the prospect of his speedy recovery. He is about as blood thirsty as ever, acknowledges that he made a mistake about the Russo-Jap war and thinks that Russia is in a bad fix, generally.

We copy both his prologue and epilogue. They are both good reading:

We come to the work of reviewing the Grand Commanderies about the same time, relatively, as last year, somewhat emaciated by recent sickness, but so far recovered that we feel in the spirit of work, and hope for earlier results than last year.

Before another report the Thirtieth Triennial of Grand Encampment will be held at Saratoga Springs, which we hope to attend and to visit the field where American liberty was won. We expect to meet with evidence of preparation for what will be the grandest Templar gathering of the century, for, next after the championship of the Christian religion, Templars are distinguished for their chivalrous patriotism.

In recurring to our report of last year, we find that we had little faith in the successful termination of the negotiations pending at Portsmouth for peace between Russia and Japan. The results were more favorable than we anticipated. Russia needed peace more than Japan, and the latter was more moderate in its demands than we anticipated. Subsequent events have shown the essential weakness of Russia. Its vast population is awakening to a realizing sense of its abject situation, and disaffection exists in its army and navy. Instead of being the greatest war power in the world, it is one of the weakest, and he must be a bold prophet who can predict when and how the present troubles will end. Our optimism leads us to think that autocracy is on its last legs, and that a liberal constitutional government will emerge before internal order and peace are secured. Emperors William and Joseph may promise aid to Russia, but we do not believe that the German or Austrian people will lend themselves to sustain autocracy.

We do know that in the eyes of Him whom a thousand years are as yesterday, the humblest peasant in Russia is the equal of the Emperor, and we know further that,

"Freedom's battle once begun
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son
Though often lost is surely won."

And we know further that the world is in need of the chivalry of Knights Templar as much to-day as ever, and so it will continue to be till He whose right it is to reign shall be acknowledged sovereign of every human soul created in His image.

CONCLUSION.

As we write these concluding words it is within a week of the meeting of our Nineteenth Annual Conclave. All the returns are in, and the dues paid, and everything promises a pleasant time for the session.

This review of sister jurisdictions has been written while convalescing from a severe sickness that reduced us to a skeleton. But we are feeling better every day, and it makes the outlook more cheerful.

Our noble Orders are everywhere having a healthy growth. The visit of England's Supreme Grand Master at the Triennial in San Francisco initiated a movement that is still in progress, that of solidifying the Templar world with the happiest auguries for the future, and for the promotion of peace and practical christianity. The quick and generous response for relief of famine in Japan, and for more recent sufferers from earthquake and fire in California and Chili, shows that the recognition of human kinship is being recognized as never before, and with the extended facilities for travel on land and on sea, the nations are be-

coming to know one another better, and are recognizing the fact that they have more interests in common than antagonistic.

It almost makes one's heart sick to scan the columns of our newspapers and read the daily annals of crime and disaster, and we think sometimes that the world is growing worse, and that such ministrations to the public taste can only beget a generation of ogres, but through it all, faith finds an abundance of evidence that the world is growing better and advancing at a pace never before witnessed. Especially should Templars whose faith in a living God and a risen Saviour are fundamental and outspoken, have confidence in the full and final redemption of the race. Our motto, "Per crucem and coronam" teaches us that it is still, and always will be through struggle, self-denial, and increased effort that the crown can be reached, and that we are not fighting a losing battle; that God is with us to gain victories for us. Even the question of the redemption of Palestine and the restoration of the lost tribes to their rightful heritage is approaching in spite of the indifference of many who seem to lack a living faith that God still reigns, and that His promises never fail. Even for Templars there are higher things than parades, regalias, rituals and military drills, which are good enough in their place, but they are not the highest essentials to realize our profession.

Born, perhaps from returning physical health and strength, our faith in a brighter future even for the fallen world was never stronger than now. Even Russia will emerge from its present ordeal with freer institutions to join the advance.

R. E. Sir J. Benton Leggatt is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1905.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Concord, September 26th, 1905. There were present: R. E. Sir Thomas M. Fletcher, Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank D. Woodbury, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except three; fourteen Past Grand Commanders, twenty-six Grand Representatives, a lot of Past Commanders and the Representatives of eleven Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short resume of an entirely uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of particular interest to outsiders. He made no decisions and granted only a few dispensations, among the latter a couple allowing commanderies of other states to "enter" his bailiwick! While even the "enter" business seems childish to your extremely practical Reporter, it is a large sized improvement on the "invade" fad, and we feel relieved and hopeful that the time will come when Templars will recognize the fact that this country of our's, though composed of many States, is ONE COUNTRY, just as the different rooms in a house constitute the house, itself, and that the Templars of this country, and the world, are one family no individual member of which should be required to ask the occupant of an adjoining room, to allow him to come in, bring his knitting and pay a short visit. There is lots of humbuggery in this world.

A picture of the R. E. adorns the pamphlet. A kindly, pleasant face and one that will do to trust.

The proceedings were routine and confined to local affairs, as well as exceedingly brief. We suppose, however, that they did all that was required to be done, which was enough. The Order seems to be in good shape in that bailiwick. The Grand Recorder made no report, nor did the Grand Treasurer, that we are able to find. However, the statistical tables furnish the information that the total membership is 2,434, a net gain of 25, and that the treasury contains a balance, on the right side, of \$1,990.22.

CORRESPONDENCE

Covers ninety-five pages, or more than two-thirds of the entire pamphlet, reviews the doings of forty-three Templar legislatures, and is the fifteenth offense of our good friend and brother, A. A. Wait and, like the other fourteen, is a good one. Under Arizona he imparts some exceedingly common information to our brother Morford, but of which he, Morford, seems to be in the dark. We clip the whole thing, as there may be, altho' it is not likely there is, others as lamentably ignorant as he seems to be:

Under Wisconsin, replying to Sir Knight SWAIN (leaving out the matters which led to the discussion), he says:

He considers our remarks on his doctrine that "the non-affiliate has both Masonic rights and Masonic duties," a "Pacific Coast idea," and our conclusions erroneous, and yet the question occurs to us, what Masonic right has a non-affiliated Mason more than a man who never has been a Mason, outside possibly, of a right to attempt to be reinstated in the Order? The man who never was in the Order has the right to attempt to get in. If a non-affiliate has a right, that right must *per se* carry with it certain powers of enforcement and protection. What Masonic powers of this kind does a non-affiliate possess? We, however, hold ourselves open to possible conviction to Frater Swain's doctrine if he can point out a Masonic right of importance possessed by a non-affiliate.

We are quite aware of Sir Knight SWAIN's ability to meet this challenge from our frater of Arizona, and perhaps we should leave it without comment on our own part. It is a matter, however, touching the fundamental principles of Masonry as the institution has come down to us from its earliest known existence, and is one to which members of the fraternity cannot be indifferent. The claim is in effect, plainly made by our frater of Arizona, though not in those terms, that the Masonic status does not exist, except in connection with membership in a Lodge; and the challenge is, to point out any Masonic rights which a non-affiliate can possess. These have many times already been pointed out and explained. A Mason, though not a member of a Lodge, has a right to communicate Masonically with other Masons, to associate with them as such, to receive their charities when in need, to bestow Masonic charity upon other Masons in need, to commune as to the secrets, the ritual and the wealth of beauties in the Masonic teachings; he has a right to visit the Lodges, if the members will consent to receive him, which they very largely do; he has a right to a Masonic burial if extended by a Lodge. Not only these, and others which might be mentioned, but the non-affiliate is amenable to the laws of the institution, to suspension or expulsion for violation of their requirements. These rights and liabilities have been

recognized and acted upon from the earliest times of Masonry's known existence, and it is not until very recent times that they have come to be questioned. But we leave the further argument to Sir Knight SWAIN, to whom Sir Knight MORFORD's queries are addressed.

We are of the opinion that Brother Wait need wait no longer, but take the cake. Arizona seems to be prolific in the production of heresies and cranky ideas, as the above, coupled with Brother Belden's ideas about an E. A. putting in his petition to the commandery. Brother Wait's attention to Mississippi, at Jaxson, is fraternal, though brief, about one page. We regret the absence of N. H. from our report, and it is possible, but not at all probable, that the fault was with us. It is so very seldom that we do anything wrong, or neglect our duty. We copy what he has to say of the redoubtable "Fred." and your Reporter:

The report of the Grand Recorder, Sir Knight FREDERIC SPEED, is a quite entertaining paper devoted chiefly to strictures upon the action of the Grand Encampment at its late triennial, with its omission to adopt some amendments proposed by the Grand Commandery of Mississippi, which appear to have been drawn up by himself. We cannot quote from it, but suggest it for the perusal of Sir Knights in general.

The Report on Correspondence is a quite able and at the same time characteristic work of Sir Knight and Past Grand Commander ENOCH GEORGE DE LAP, included in which are some further comments upon the action of the Grand Encampment by Grand Recorder SPEED. We regret that New Hampshire does not appear in the review of Grand Commanderies which it contains.

We copy his conclusion:

CONCLUSION.

We thus conclude our work of the year. It has occupied such portions of our time as could be spared from business pursuits. Though laborious, the work has been a most delightful interview with brethren with whom it has brought us in communication, and leaves memories which will be cherished as among the pleasantest of a life whose years are now not a few. Harmony has everywhere prevailed, and prosperity has exceeded that of former years of Templar history.

Some differences of opinion have given rise to discussion, but in all cases these have been conducted without acrimony, and with the utmost Knightly courtesy, with an evident desire to reach just results. It has been our aim to bring before our brethren of the Order the leading transactions of the several Templar jurisdictions, and such as may display the general spirit and trend which characterize the period under review: at the same time venturing the expression of our own views in the few instances where we have felt ourselves justified by the occasion. What has been our success the brethren will judge, but time must be the final arbiter.

R. E. Sir Isaac Long Heath is Grand Commander, Grand Recorder same as before, also the Correspondent.

NEW JERSEY—1906.

The Forty-eighth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Trenton, May, 8th. Present: R. E. Sir Jacob Kirkner, Grand Commander; E. Sir Thomas H. R. Redway, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers; sixteen Past Grand Commanders, thirty-one Grand Representatives (including Brother Wm. J. Cross for Mississippi.); 33 Past Grand Commanders and Representatives of sixteen of the twenty chartered Commanderies in that jurisdiction. There were no welcoming speeches, or other expenditure of "Hot Air," before the opening, which was pleasant to them, as it is to us.

The session was honored by the presence of several distinguished visitors, among them our good friend and brother, John M. Bell, Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery of Ohio.

The address of the Grand Commander is a comparatively short resume of the events of a quiet but creditable administration, in which, however, we find nothing of special interest to outsiders. We note, with profound sorrow, that he still sticks to the "Invasion" fad, allowing as he did a commandery from New York to "INVADE" New Jersey, pass through it and go South for its health, or in search of the "Holy Grail!" Can such things be and not excite our wonder? Well, scarcely!

Proper tribute is paid to the memory and merits of the knightly dead, among them Past Grand Commander Thomas W. Tilden, who passed to his eternal home during the year.

He issued a few dispensations, but none of them to ballot on the jump, which is out of the usual course, decidedly. It is possible that he did grant more or less of these, but did not consider them of sufficient importance to report them.

He reported but one decision, and that a correct one. He also engaged a slice of the Head Quarters Hotel, at Saratoga for next summer's pic nic, but does not state the price paid. He recommended great care in the acceptance of candidates for the Orders to the end that no one engaged in the selling of liquid damnation, or other disreputable business should be admitted. It occurs to us that a man that will sign a "liquor petition" stultifies himself when he objects to the man he endorses as a proper person to wreck homes, starve children, clothe them in rags, fill drunkard's graves and a drunkard's hell, as a man unfit for the Orders of knighthood. Let us be consistent, if we can, and, if not, be as consistent as we can.

The address, as a whole, is all right. His portrait makes a nice frontispiece for the pamphlet. His signature, a fac simile of which appears twice in the book, looks a little shaky, like it had been struck by lightning, or as though the late Horace Greeley was his writing master. Well, well, it is seldom you find a really great man who is also a good scribe. Fred says that your distinguished Reporter writes a miserable fist. (How does that strike you, Peter, as a specimen of high class "modesty?")

The proceedings were of the usual routine character and of local interest. The treasury contained a balance, on the right side, of \$2,843.97. Grand Recorder's report shows a gain in membership of 355, and a loss of 123, leaving a net gain of 232, and a total membership of 2,649. He also reports contributions for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers, by commanderies, \$1,237.00, individuals, \$200 making a total of \$1,527.00. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. A good, strong, kindly face.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is preceded by a portrait of its author, Peter (the Apostle) McGill, covers over one hundred and twenty pages, reviews the transactions of forty-one Templar Grands, including our's at Brookhaven. It is a good report, in fact Peter gets up that kind all the time, hence we are not at all surprised. His picture shows that he is mighty good looking, and the expression on his face shows that he is cognizant of the fact. For this he is not in fault, as, were we as handsome as he is, and as fine looking, we would be proud of it.

Reviewing Brother Babb's report of last year, he runs across what follows:

He is a loyal son of New Jersey, and, under the title of Arizona, he sounds her praise in these words:

"Come to think of it, everything that New Jersey produces or adopts comes pretty near to being at the head of its class, running all the way from the *genus homo* (both sexes, please) down through both *fauna* and *gora*. Come on and see us, and if we can't prove the truth of our assertion, we will fall back on apples and peaches and their products. We are sure of our power to convince and satisfy them."

As we came to this passage we read it aloud to a cynical friend sitting at our side, and asked him what he thought of the statement made by Frater McGill. After a moments reflection, he said: "I know nothing of the rich flavor of her boasted peaches or apples, but I am ready to admit that whatever New Jersey produces stands near the head of its class. Look at her great industrial combinations, known as trusts, with their blight touching almost every American home; they certainly stand at the head of their class. The 'hoboes' of Hoboken are typical of their class, while another of her cities bears the reputation as ranking first as the home of the followers of the red flag; her mosquitoes have a national reputation of standing at the very head of their class—they are without a peer. Yes, it is true that whatever New Jersey produces stands at the head of its class." Now Frater McGill, you can abuse our cynical friend all you please as he has no defenders here. We know something of your state and her splendid citizenship, and we do not blame you for sounding her praise.

We notice that every one that wanted a comprehensive charter came first to New Jersey. After that almost every State in the union granted charters which they said were more generous than those of New Jersey and for less money. Who was it that said "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery." Iowa fills her coffers in return for favors she grants those applying for charters and paying for them, and we think we have heard her charters were as flexible as those of any other state. The hoboes of Hoboken don't belong to us, and we have not adopted them. They come from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and other states in that part of the country, beating their way in on the roads that center at Hoboken.

We take as much care of them as we can, but as we never expected to have to take care of this output of other states and just at present we really have not sufficient accommodations for them. We would suggest that the city referred to is not named for that class of humanity. Pater-son is not in it with some of the Western towns as an Anarchist center. We admit that she provides the brains for some of our less able parts of the country, but you rarely hear of any more disturbances of the peace there than happen in the rural localities of Mt. Pleasant, Ia., and other quiet villages in the same state. The mosquito does indeed flourish in certain localities, but if visitors would keep away from the few questionable localities here, frequenting instead the many, many desirable ones, we would hear less unfavorable criticisms from beyond our borders, and the critics would need fewer hours in which to repent of their investigations of things they don't wish to talk about in the bosom of their families. Come again, Frater Cynic.

We are inclined to think that the Apostle holds the edge, this deal, and while the cynical Iowa man gives him a pretty good dig, Peter comes to the scratch without any evidence of disfigurement or loss of wind. New Jersey is, undoubtedly, a great State, her fruit is first-class, her men brainy and her mosquitos are impervious to cold, but like the Apostle himself, are ready for business as soon as thawed out. They say that the egg of a bed bug is immortal, and that you can't kill it until after it is hatched, while the only way you can kill a Jersey mosquito is to take a club, or a sledge hammer and mash the musical little cuss!

Considering Brother Shaver's report, (Kansas) he has these timely and sensible remarks to make:

He shies what he calls a "rock" at us about the discussion we had with DeLap a few years ago anent a biblical matter. This is, by this time, ancient history, but our position is the same as ever. Shaver's rock crumbles to dust before it touches us, still if DeLap and we have been the means of making some of "the boys" brush the dust off the covers of their Bibles in order to see just what the correct reading of the verse was, we have probably done more good than we at first anticipated.

We concur. Of Grand Commander Dixon's address he says it is short and contains nothing to "excerpt." After quoting the eulogium of Fred. contained in said address, he sagely remarks: "We should naturally expect the man that had no equals to have NO superiors, but it may be different down in the far South." It is different down here, Peter. It doesn't take us thirty days to see a joke, i, e, all of us don't take so long. The sentence was not original with the R. E., and was put in simply to see how many of you fellows would detect it. He says of Fred's Necrology Report, that it is "a beautifully written paper, etc."

He has this to say of your able Reporter:

Frater Enoch George DeLap presents the Report on Correspondence and acknowledges it as his own particular work. He thinks well of it, too. Hear him: "It is possible there have been reports of this character written that surpass this one, but we are inclined to doubt it. He then invites comparison with as many as they can pick up, and to judge for

themselves. Of course, DeLap's report is a good one, but his modesty, a characteristic we always accredited to him, does not appear in his introduction. Perhaps he grew tired of wearing it all the time, and took it off. He has no love for that country of sunshine and alkali, Arizona, and hits it and its fraters whenever the opportunity presents. This is his first outbreak:

We were not wearing many clothes, at the time that prologue was hatched, and "modesty" was not in the list of garments we had on. We deny, however, that there is the least element of ego in it, and Peter knows it. When you write a prologue you are bound to say something to excite the curiosity of your readers, or they will decide, in advance, that what follows will prove stale, flat and unprofitable reading, and quit before they begin. Regarding our little scrimmage with Brother Babb, of Iowa, he says:

Come, DeLap, let up a little on him. A great deal of attention is paid by him to Babb of Iowa, because the latter unguardedly says "DeLap is strong in theology." Last year DeLap, under Pennsylvania, delivered an opinion that the negro is not a descendant of Adam. This subject Babb summarizes under three heads, which he thinks are theological. It seems to us as if the subject were rather an anthropological one, but we don't know much on this subject. Babb gives about three pages to a consideration of his side, and E. G. DeL. gets back at him in three more. At the end we fail to see that either of them have established their contention. New Jersey receives her notice as usual. One thing we must protest against, however, and that is DeLap appropriating to himself complimentary remarks intended for other inhabitants of Mississippi, especially those intended for Fred. Speed. We did say nice things about Speed last year, and now E. G. DeL. invites a repetition by saying "Speed resembles the writer." It won't do, DeLap. We have seen "the man without an equal and but few superiors," and we have seen your portrait. There is not the slightest resemblance between you. Do you remember our commenting a few years ago about the reprehensible habit you had of parting your name in the middle? We are glad to learn it has born fruit, and that you not only have abandoned it, and are now stealing our thunder by advising others not to do so."

Peter is entirely mistaken in his verdict that neither one of us established our contention. The fact is that both of us are right, and there we will drop the curtain.

His protest against our appropriating complimentary remarks made about the redoubtable "Fred," is "received and filed, and the protestant required to submit a bill of particulars, or he will be thrown out of court." Unfortunately, for Fred, "there is not the slightest resemblance." Peter is in error in supposing that we desire to bask in the sunshine of Fred's grandeur and greatness. We borrow no man's thunder, never sail under false colors. We are good enough, what there is of us, and there is enough of us, such as it is. Unlike the Sky Pilots of our age, (many of them), St. Paul "coveted no man's silver, or gold or apparel, Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered to my necessities and to them that were with us," and this Reporter can say with equal truth that he has coveted no meed of praise bestowed on

others, nor has he tried to appropriate it to his own use or benefit, and Peter knows it, too. The rascal! If Peter ever called our attention to the foolishness of parting our name in the middle, we do not recall the circumstance, but as he said he did, it must be true. We beg to suggest, however, that we quit it long before Peter sat down at the "Round Table" and its continuance in the published proceedings has been the work of Brothers Power and Speed, and against our repeated protests against the continuance of the reprehensible habit. He closes his attention to us in the following beautiful sentiment, which makes us love him more, if that were a possibility:

But all things fall into insignificance when he gives us his blessing, which we receive with grateful heart and bowed head. And may he receive in return, even in greater measure than he gives, that which he wishes for others. And so we say "Good evening" to our friend in the far South, hoping in our heart of hearts to meet him at Saratoga next summer.

We are very much afraid, dear Peter, that we won't be there, much as we would love to meet and greet yourself and others.

R. E. Sir Wm. Carman, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

NEW MEXICO—1906.

The Sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Albuquerque, October, 18th. There were in attendance V. E. Arthur Everitt, Deputy Grand Commander, presiding; E. Sir A. A. Keen, Grand Recorder; four Past Grand Commanders, a number of other Past Grand Officers and delegates from seven Subordinate Commanderies. R. E. Sir A. H. Harlee, Grand Commander, was unavoidably detained by business engagements, but sent his address. It is a short, but well written paper, but is confined to local matters, entirely. We excerpt a part of his opening chorus:

It is with great pleasure that I extend to each of you a cordial greeting at this, our Sixth Annual Grand Conclave.

I am especially gratified to greet you under such favorable auspices. While other fair portions of the habitable globe have, within the past year, been visited with wars, earthquakes and floods, with death, devastation and want following in their wake, rendering the past year memorable in history, we have been peculiarly blessed and favored. Perhaps during no like period in the history of our Territory have prosperity and advancement so universally prevailed. Such conditions are not confined alone to the development of our material resources, but extend as well to the intellectual and moral advancement of all classes within our borders. Such conditions, I feel assured, presage renewed life and vigor to our beloved Order, which has even in view the development of Christian manhood, the noblest citizenship and all that tends to the highest purposes and best interests of the individual, the family and the State.

As such conditions open up new fields of activity in all the walks of life, they also impose upon us increased responsibilities. I trust and

believe that collectively and individually we will, in the future as in the past, be equal to every task and duty which may be presented, and that the Standard of our Order will ever be found unsullied in the foremost rank where duty leads.

May we ever be mindful of Him, the Giver and Preserver of all blessings, and may we at all times be able to say from our hearts, "Not unto us, but unto Thy Name let all glory be given."

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Total membership 440, a gain of 54. Grand Treasury contained a cash balance, as follows: General fund, \$688.94, Charity Fund, \$628.53 and Triennial Fund, \$407.50. There is no report on Correspondence.

R. E. Sir Arthur Everitt is Grand Comander and E. Sir Alpheus A. Keen, Grand Recorder.

NEW YORK—1906.

The Ninety-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Albany, September, 4th. There were present: R. E. Sir Erastus C. Knight, Grand Commander; E. Sir John H. Bonninger, Grand Recorder; fourteen Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, Grand Representatives and delegates from sixty out of sixty-seven Subordinate Commanderies.

The proceedings were opened by a prayer from Grand Prelate, Hubbard. We are partial to short prayers, for several reasons, chief among them being the command of the Master to His disciples, to abstain from long ones, and secondly, because prayer is, simply, the soul's sincere desire, and the expression of this desire is all that is needful, no preface, reciting the attributes of God, no embellishment of the petition of an oratorical or eloquent character, and no epilogue except this: "If it be Thy will." Our brother Hubbard suits us, as a prayer maker.

Brother Armitage, of the local commandery, and the welcoming speaker, was, at the time, indisposed, hence his effort was brief, as was the response, by the Grand Commander. What we regret is, that in both speeches the word "hospitality" occurs, and the word "Templarism" in that of the R. E. These were followed by one from the mayor, which was responded to very briefly, by the R. E.

The Grand Commander's address is a comprehensive resume of a creditable administration. We copy his opening:

As the presiding officer of this Grand Body, I cordially welcome all Knights Templar to this, the Ninety-third Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York.

Another year has passed into eternity. Another wave upon the ocean of life is just now breaking into foam, and will to-day leave its mark upon the shores of time and disappear forever. It has been a year both of joys and sorrows to us all, and it is meet that at such a time we give thanks to the Almighty God for the many blessings that He has permitted us to enjoy, and for the privileges of again meeting together to promote the welfare of our glorious Order.

Some there are who are ever looking backward, finding in the past the Templar's greatest grandeur. I am not of those. Proud of its unrivalled past I exult yet more in its glorious present, and into the future I look with joy and hopefulness in expectation of that great day when truth shall reign supreme.

As we turn at this moment and gaze from the head of the column down the lines of the constantly increasing hosts of Knights Templar, whose steady march shows both energy and hope, we feel a thrill of exultation and are moved to exclamations of praise. The pessimistic declaration that, "All things reach a summit, whence they decline," has not been verified within our Order. Our faces are still turned towards the sun; the sky we behold is yet unobscured by cloud, and the paths we tread lead upward. We enter the bright promise of the Twentieth Century. We do not boast but our faith is strong in our noble Institution. It has a beautiful history; it has stood the test of time. Composite in its character and rich in its materials, the sources of its strength are to be sought among the everlasting truths of mankind. All ages and all countries have contributed to its upbuilding. Around the pillars of our Temple the ivy of centuries puts forth its leaves and tendrils. The light and influence of Templarism have been felt on every high hill and every low vale in this vast Republic: in regions where the Southern Cross looks down from the heavens: among the jagged mountains, and on the Golden Shores of California and within the ice-bound coasts of Northern lands. Over them all and beyond them all, the pure white banner and the Templar Cross are bearing the sweet spirit of charity and brotherly love. Wherever on this broad footstool man kneels in love and bows in sympathy with fellow man, there Templarism is twining her influence like a green wreath of immortelles around the altars of their social lives, shaping anew the great arch of the new civilization.

His decisions were few and unimportant. He granted quite a long list of dispensations, but none of them to "ballot out of time." He authorized several of the neighboring States to "invade" the jurisdiction of New York, which, as we have before remarked, is a very risky business! His portrait, and that of the lamented Dr. Twing, adorn the pamphlet.

PROCEEDINGS

were routine and of local interest. The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition and they are crowding the Pennsylvanians pretty close. We find it difficult to imagine how the Keystoners got ahead.

The Grand Recorder reports a total membership of 17,282, a gain of 651, which is pretty good.

Grand Treasurer reports a cash balance on hand of \$18,377.06 in the General Fund. We note, with approval, the fact that Brother Hubbard, the Grand Prelate, was paid \$100, for his report on "Necrology," last year. Being a good one, it was worth the money. We also note that a like sum was paid to the chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the second Templar, literary child of Brother Jno. W. Jenkins, and like the first, is of vigorous growth, perfect in all its parts and complete as a whole.

The report covers one hundred and sixty-five pages and reviews almost the entire family of Templar Grands, carefully and courteously, Mississippi, at Brookhaven, getting her full measure of attention. He says of Grand Commander Dixon's address that it is short but comprehensive, endorses his idea in regard to dispensations to ballot "on the jump," but deprecates the rather ungracious manner in which he expresses himself. Our good brother Jenkins, forgets that the matter is one with which the Grand Encampment has no right to interfere; that it is a matter in which the subordinates are the best judges, coupled with the supposed intelligence of the Grand Commander. We are simply restive under the unnecessary meddling of the national body on the domestic affairs of the Grand Commanderies. There is really now but little for a Grand Commandery to do, so effectually have they been shorn of their prerogatives.

He also dissents to the use of the word "Grand East" when applied to Templar bodies, remarking: "We contend that there is no 'Grand East' in a Grand Commandery, or anywhere else outside of a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons." He admits that the error is a common one, but is not justified by the facts. As there is no "West" or "South" in a Templar body, there should be no "East." The question is not, however, of sufficient moment to justify an extended discussion of it. Just suit yourselves, brethren, use, or not use the term, and no one will be hurt. They are two real good words and have a sort of "toney" ring to them, but that fact doesn't amount to much with people who carry the regulation supply of gray matter under their hats. He fails to see the "goak" intended by the sentence, used in regard to Fred's ability and worth, as a Grand Recorder, which follows: "As a Grand Recorder he has no equals and few superiors." Brother J. Remarks: "We imagine he intended it just the other way." Of course he did, and he just put it in that way to see how many of his readers would discover the "goak," and the number is small, so far.

He appreciates the tribute to their late Grand Prelate, Brother Twing, contained in the report on "Necrology," copying it entire. He is right kind to your distinguished Reporter, giving him a couple of pages of rather flattering attention. He pays no doubt merited tribute to our Representative to New York, Brother Chapman, who is about the only one of our representatives who does not consider the office a sinecure.

He says they are hustling to catch up and pass Pennsylvania in number of affiliated Templars, and we live in hope. In his "Statistical Table" he gives the number of Masons as follows: New York 139,206 and Pennsylvania only 67,706, R. A. Masons; New York 29,390, Pennsylvania 22,676, Templars; New York 17,282; Pennsylvania 17,683. We do not understand why New York with double the number of M. M.s has only 6,000 more R. A. M.s and 400 less Templars than Pennsylvania and if Brother J. will explain this we will be obliged. We copy his conclusion, or a part of it:

CONCLUSION.

"Home again," not from a "foreign shore," (as that would be inconsistent with our oft-expressed views against the use of the word "foreign" in connection with our sister jurisdictions) but from a delightful trip to our fraters throughout the broad expanse of our country, with a little side trip to Canada, and an ocean voyage to England and Wales.

We have enjoyed the trip immensely, but must admit that we are glad to be home again by our own fireside, there to rest from the fatigue incident to such a long journey, and, to prepare for the next duty which confronts us, the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment. We are looking forward with many anticipations of delight, to greeting our fraters, on that occasion, and especially to forming the personal acquaintance of many of the "Knights of the Round Table," whom we feel we know already, but whom we have long been desirous of meeting face to face.

There is little in the Templar world to call for special mention. Peace and harmony prevail everywhere; there are no questions of "great pith and moment" agitating the calm surface of our serenity, and were it not for the terrible calamity that befel our California Fraters, and the splendid response to their call for help, there would have been nothing out of the ordinary to report.

There are still a few Grand Commanders who cannot resist the importunities of their fraters in the matter of rushing candidates through the Orders short of statutory time, but we are happy to notice a marked improvement in this regard, and feel encouraged to persist in our warfare against the practice, aided and assisted as we are, by so many of the ablest writers of the reportorial corps.

Other matters of minor importance, such as the use of the term "invade" in connection with fraternal visits between jurisdictions, the lack of interest displayed by Grand Representatives in failing to represent the jurisdictions, and the wide difference of opinions in the minds of Grand Commanders as to what constitutes a "proper occasion" for a Commandery to parade, are like the poor, always with us, and we presume always will be. They at least give the correspondent something to do, which probably is a good thing, as it keeps us out of mischief.

Massachusetts and Rhode Island has celebrated its centennial in a glorious manner, and in a few brief years New York will do the same. So that we feel that the Order has passed the experimental stage of its existence and that its permanency is as well assured as the rock on which it is founded.

Tempus fugit indeed with all of us. We are gradually but surely approaching the eventide of life, and whatever good we may propose doing for our fellows, must be done now, "for the night cometh when no man can work."

We ran across the following lines in our readings, which appealed to us in this connection, and which we have concluded to reproduce "for the benefit of the craft."

"Be swift, dear heart, in loving;
For time is brief,
And all thy chance of blessed service
Keep step with grief.

"Be swift, dear heart, in saying
The kindly word;
When ears are sealed, thy passionate pleading,
Will not be heard.

"Be swift, dear heart, in doing
The gracious deed,
Lest soon they whom thou holdest dearest
Be past the need.

"Be swift, dear heart, in giving
The rare, sweet flower,
Nor wait to heap with blooms the casket
In some sad hour.

"Dear heart, be swift in loving—
Time speedeth on;
And all the chance of blessed service
Will soon be gone."

For the gracious words of commendation accorded our initial endeavor as a correspondent, and for the hearty words of welcome so generously vouchsafed us, we are more than grateful.

There is not a discordant note in the whole symphony of fraternal fellowship, and the courteous consideration shown the new-comer is only another evidence of the spirit of love that pervades our beloved Order.

R. E. Sir Albert P. Knapp is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

NORTH CAROLINA—1906.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Charlotte, May, 9th. Present: R. E. Sir Laurence A. Dodsworth, Grand Commander; E. Sir James C. Munds, Grand Recorder; all the rest of the Grand Officers, except the Captain of the Guard; six Past Grand Officers, twenty-three Grand Representatives, including brother M. S. Williard for Mississippi, and Representatives from twelve Subordinate Commanderies, out of fifteen.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, but well written resume of an uneventful, but creditable administration. We copy his opening:

One year, and so much gone. What schemes of life, what joyous hopes, what high resolves; yet the even flow of life moves calmly on, and we are permitted with grateful hearts to meet in Annual Conclave. And while we are deeply mindful of the many blessings with which the Prince of Peace has surrounded us, and for the happy privilege of holding fellowship and counsel with one another, let us pledge ourselves to greater effort, and try to live up to the glorious principles of Christianity upon which our Order is founded.

Every man has a mission from God to help his fellow beings, and though we, as Knights Templar, may differ in faith, there is one platform on which we stand united, and that is the platform of charity and benevolence. We cannot, indeed, like our Divine Master, give sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, speech to the dumb and strength to the paralyzed limb, but we can work miracles of mercy by relieving the miseries of our suffering brethren, and never do we approach nearer the Giver of all Good Gifts than when we alleviate the sorrows of others. Never do we perform a more God-like act than when we bring sunshine to the hearts that are desolate; never are we more like unto God than when we cause the flowers of joy and hope to bloom in souls that were dry and barren before.

Proper tribute is paid to the memory and worth of the knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. He granted several dispensations, but only one to ballot in a hurry. One dispensation for a new commandery to be located at Southern Pines, was granted. He made no decisions and reported nothing of special interest to the outside world. His portrait adorns the pamphlet; a pleasant, but boyish face.

PROCEEDINGS.

These, as usual, were routine and of local interest. Grand Treasurer reported a cash balance in hand of, \$1,342.74; total membership, 761, a gain of 82. A charter was granted to Southern Pines Commandery. The Triennial Committee reported that they had engaged a parlor at \$24.00 per diem and four sleeping rooms, to accommodate twelve persons, with board, for \$72.00 per diem, making \$96.00 per day for four days, or \$8.00 a day, which is fairly steep to a fellow with hay in his hair, mud on his boots and not otherwise toney. Of course this was at the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the ninth offense of our good brother, Southgate, covers more than two-thirds of the pamphlet, one hundred and fourteen pages, reviews the minutes of all the American Templar Grands, except Arizona and Oklahoma, and, like the other eight, is a good one and a credit to its author and the "Tarheel" State.

Our brother James' attention to our doings at Jaxson, is very pleasant and fraternal and is appreciated. He copies from Brother Burkitt's address, and pays his respects to the undaunted "Fred." after this manner:

The Report of the Grand Recorder, Fred Speed, is characteristic of the man, for if you treat him justly he is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother, but tread on his toes and you will find that he has the swiftness of the eagle, the patience of the ox, the strength of the lion and intelligence of the man. He had proposed certain amendments to be acted on by the Grand Encampment, but they had not attended to them to suit him and he takes occasion in his report to belabor them with a big stick, and well does he sustain the argument, but the Grand Encampment is too much for him and he must rest content until the next Grand Conclave.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance of \$1,260.51.

The Report on Necrology is a model paper of its class and is written by R. E. Sir Frederic Speed, who wields a trenchant pen and his papers are always good.

Yes, Fred is undoubtedly a "holy terror" when you tread on his corns, or cross him in any way, but, Pshaw! he never harmed anybody, and would not, if he could. We again record our fear that these flattering ecomiums will turn Fred's head, but we can't help it.

We excerpt what he says of your distinguished Reporter:

The Report on Correspondence (81pp.) is presented by R. E. Sir E. G. DeLap, P. G. C., who has before this and often been dilectating

the Templar world with Masonic light to brighten our pathway and instruct us in the pursuit of truth. He gives North Carolina for 1904 two pages of kind notice. He styles R. E. Sir Norfleet's address the shortest on record and remarks if it was all he had to say it was of proper length. It was a sort of "*multum in parvo*," Sir Knight, and when you know the man, if ever, you will find him solid to the core and all right. It, however, gives him a text on which he sermonizes to the preachers, who don't know when they have sufficiently wearied their hearers by giving the 16thly, etc. We thank the frater for kindly interest in our health. We are nearly as much indisposed this year, Sir Knight, as then, but we are still pursuing and hope to be better when the spring time comes.

We wish space allowed us to give his views on the Jews and Japs, but must forbear. We like the way Sir DeLap puts it.

We hope his expectation of restored health may be fully realized. We copy his "Conclusion."

After a careful review of the Templar field we find nothing to discourage, for Onward seems to be the watchword and progress is recorded in nearly every jurisdiction. The Twenty-ninth Triennial is mentioned in every address and the encomiums of praise heaped upon the Sir Knights of California made this an epoch in their history and a cause for congratulation for all time. Christmas observance is taking deeper hold as the years come and go and even at this early date we find signs of departure from the original intention of Sir Knight Berry, of Maine. He meant that one toast should be given to the Grand Master. Now we note in some cases, several toasts are given, making it a cause of offense to some and a dangerous temptation to others. We should guard this point, Sir Knights. We also note that on this occasion, additions are made and a "European Breakfast," whatever that means, is served. Perhaps soon the banquet with "all the concomitants" will appear. We hope always for the best and trust that no harm will come to anyone, not even the weakest of our brethren.

With love for all and thanks for kind consideration at the hands of our Confreeres, we remain.

R. E. Sir Alex B. Andrews is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent continued.

NORTH DAKOTA—1906.

The Seventeenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Fargo, January, 30th. Present: R. E. Sir Frank H. Sprague, Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank J. Thompson, Grand Recorder; all the rest of the staff, except the Senior Grand Warden; seven Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, thirty-two Grand Representatives and Delegates from twelve Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a voluminous document, twenty-six pages, made up, largely from copies of inspection reports, a sort of address that is not to our taste, at all. The original portion of the address is well written and shows a creditable and painstaking administration, in which, however, we find nothing of special interest to out-

siders. His dispensations were few and along the usual lines. He gravely states that he allowed one of his subordinates to pass over into Minnesota, having first obtained permission from the High Muck-a-Muck of that bailiwick for them to "INVADE." How absurdly absurd all this "Tom-my Rot" is! It makes us tired.

He made but one decision, viz: That a lunatic was properly stopped in the midst of the ceremony for refusing to make the required, ritualistic declaration. We have always been opposed to making the Order a corral for Agnostics and other brands of the fool tribe. His phiz makes an excellent frontispiece to the pamphlet.

The proceedings were brief, routine and of local interest. The Order in that Neck-of-the-Woods seems to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. Treasury balance, to the good, \$2,312.78; total membership, 872, a gain of 46. The Triennial Committee reported that they had bought a slice of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, for use next year. Parlor one day, \$25.00, three rooms, accommodating ten persons, including meals at, \$60.00 a day, or \$265.00 for the four days. No wonder all the large cities are after the Bonanza of the Grand Encampment. It pays them, but whether it pays anybody else is problematical. There is no report on correspondence, which shows that our Dakota brethren are "long" on buncombe and display, and "short" on literature. However, every one to his taste as the fellow said who kissed a squaw in preference to a white woman.

R. E. Sir Harry S. Oliver is Grand Commander; E. Sir Frank J. Thompson, Grand Recorder. No committee on Foreign Correspondence.

NEBRASKA—1906.

A small, but elegantly printed and bound pamphlet of one hundred and thirty-two pages contains the proceedings of the Thirty-fourth Annual Conclave of this Grand Body, held in the city of Omaha, April, 26th. There were present: R. E. Sir Carroll D. Evans, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Francis E. White, Grand Recorder; all the other Staff Officers, except the Grand Sword Bearer; ten Past Grand Commanders, twenty-one Grand Representatives and Delegates from twenty-five Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a complete epitome of the salient features of his administration and is creditable both to its author and the Grand Body. We note with regret, however, that he rings in the early Templars, using the following language: "whose memory we adore, whose lives we emulate, whose practices we cherish and whose Kt. errantry and chivalry we hold in holy reverence!" Well I should smile! Brother Evans may do the emulating, cherishing and memory adoring act, but he must do it alone, without help or sympathy from us. Well, hardly! As we have had occasion to remark before, there is nothing in the memory of the early Templars that should excite adoration in a christian heart, in the lives of a majority of them that we ought to emulate, and certainly nothing in their practices that we ought to "cherish" or even recall

without a blush. We shall be glad when this venerable and hoary chestnut drops out of sight and memory. There is nothing in common between the religion and Gospel of Christ and the performances of the early Templars and the Crusaders. They won't assimilate worth a cent. We find nothing of outside interest in the address. He recommended a rise in the salary of the Grand Recorder, which was so ordered. That is right brethren. His portrait adorns the pamphlet.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance to the good, \$3,885.50; total membership, 2160, a gain of 130.

We clip what follows as being of interest to you in connection with the proposed Widows and Orphans Home:

NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME.

The following taken from my report to the shareholders at the meeting held January 23d, 1906, gives all the information for the year 1905. All changes since that date would simply show the additional expenses to the present date. To this, however, may be added: that the addition is furnished and occupied, and that there are now in the Home eleven men, ten women, three boys, and one girl; total twenty-five, being an increase of five since December 31st, 1905.

Cost of maintaining the Home from January 1st, 1905, to December 31st, 1905.

Printing	\$ 22.75
Postage	12.50
Expense	28.92
Funeral expenses	5.00
Maintenance	1,770.62
Salaries and labor.....	830.45
Medical supplies.....	124.74
Clothing	40.75
	<hr/>
	\$2,835.73

Total number in the Home during the year, 26; 1 resident died; 1 left the Home to take a situation; and 4 left the Home, having been there only temporarily. The above cost of maintaining the Home computed on actual time for one person, viz: 13 years, 9 months, and 0 days, would be at the rate of \$206.36 for one person a year.

Commanderies of Knights Templar sent as a Christmas offering during the year 1905, to purchase medical supplies, \$96.30.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our good brother White, Grand Recorder, submitted his seventh report on Correspondence, which, like the other six, is an excellent one. It covers seventy-eight pages, nearly two-thirds of the pamphlet, reviews nearly all the Templar Bodies in the world, including Mississippi at Brookhaven, getting three pages of the most fraternal attention.

Brother White is a careful reviewer, as nothing of importance or interest escapes his "eagle eye." His review of our pamphlet is a practical illustration of this fact. He is always courteous and it is a pleasure to

read his reports and would be a great one to know him personally. Under Minnesota he has this to say, in his review of Brother Van Cleve's report on Correspondence:

The reviewer sympathizes with Past Grand Commander Speed of Mississippi in not being able to get the Grand Encampment to adopt his proposed amendment to the code, but says that the Grand Encampment statutes are the supreme court and he submits to their ruling. So do we, but we would like to have the chance to change quite a bunch of them. Our good brother is laying up lots of trouble for himself, as we notice that he furnishes an abundance of food for thought for Frater DeLap of Mississippi. He, however, appears perfectly able to take care of himself, and we anticipate a spicy response in the next review from Mississippi. He starts out by saying that to "review this correspondence may be somewhat like monkeying with a buzz saw, but here goes." He uses his stiletto very freely, and then pours a little balm into the wound by observing that the report is a good one. He refers Frater DeLap to Scripture, and that is where he made his mistake. Frater McGill tried to work that on DeLap, but Brother Enoch is strictly in it in all matters of that kind.

We do not recall what we did to Van, in reply, and as our copy of current year's proceedings has been borrowed, without our knowledge, privity or consent, we are unable to refresh our memory just now. If we failed to give Van what is justly due him, we regret it and will attend to it later.

He gives a complete synopsis of Brother Dixon's address as well as the proceedings. Says of Fred's report on Necrology that it is up to the usual high standard of his work. He introduces our report to the Nebraskans, as follows:

The other proceedings of the session appear to be routine, and such as were necessary to successfully conduct the affairs of the jurisdiction.

Past Grand Commander George Enoch DeLap constructs the report on Correspondence, consisting of sixty-six pages. He begins the trouble by stating that it is possible that there may have been reports of this character that surpass the one he presents, but he is inclined to doubt it. We fully agree; there is nothing like it that reaches our table. The report, however, was written under very unfavorable conditions. It was written in the hot summer months when the yellow fever was working destruction in some portions of the state, and quarantine was enforced with shotguns in some localities. Notwithstanding all this, Frater DeLap's report is as full of original matter as ever, and appears to have been written in the same cheerful and humorous vein as those heretofore prepared by this distinguished writer.

We fully appreciate all the good and flattering things he says of us, but as they are deserved, they do not make us vain. We copy his Epilogue, in full, as there are several things in it that it will pay you to read:

We regret having to close our review without including the jurisdictions of Indiana, North Dakota, and Virginia; their proceedings, however, have not reached us in time for the printer. We began our review early in January, 1906, and close it on May 21st, of the same year. We have done the work at odd moments, as we could spare the time from other

duties. It may be disconnected, or in some places thrown together loosely, but such ability as we have has been used, and we send it forth with the hope that some may be benefited by our labors. We have made but slight reference to the distinguished Jead, as we have felt that such matters should be left for the several jurisdictions where their labors ended; and as all jurisdictions eulogize their distinguished fraters, all we could do would be to express our sympathy and copy what others have said of them.

The Order of the Temple is increasing in membership fully as rapidly as conditions warrant. Membership alone does not indicate either strength or stability. A careful estimate of the membership at this date would show very close to one hundred and sixty thousand. A very large percentage of these are of the best citizens in the communities where they reside, and it should be the duty of each Sir Knight to see that this high standard is always maintained.

We have been contending for some time that the world is getting better each day. The recent discovery of so many illegal and wrong acts by men whose integrity has heretofore been unquestioned, does not indicate that the world is getting worse; but on the contrary, that it is improving, and that citizens generally are determined to have better and more thorough management of both public and semi-public affairs, and that men to be honored and respected must be worthy of the confidence of the people.

White winged Peace seems to have spread her pinions over the entire globe. Perhaps a little disturbance in some isolated corner is not fully covered, but it is of such minor importance as to escape notice. Nations that heretofore gloried in war are now zealously striving to maintain peace without having to fight for it. This is as it should be, leaving to nations and individuals abundant time to devote to the arts and sciences, and to contribute to the welfare of mankind. The recent great disasters in this country and elsewhere brought prominently to view the precepts of the brotherhood of man, showing that we are rapidly approaching the time, if we have not already reached it, when humanity shall know no dividing lines, but will extend help and sympathy whenever and wherever it is needed. In all the progress and good work that is being done, a careful examination of the situation will show that the Knight Templar is doing his full duty in every land and in every community.

Referring to the last paragraph, we are at a loss to imagine how our brother can advance the proposition that "White Winged Peace" is so much in evidence; in the face of existing conditions in the Russian Empire, where each day threatens to precipitate a Revolution that may result as did that in France, in the Eighteenth century, dethrone the existing government, change the map of the world and repeat the awful horrors of those fearful days. God grant that it may not be so.

R. E. Sir John W. Hughes is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

OHIO—1905.

The Sixty-third Annual Conclave was held in the City of Columbus, October 11th. There were present: R. E. Sir Carroll F. Clapp, Grand Commander; a big lot of Past Commanders and Representatives, not including our's, E. Sir John Nelson Bell, Grand Recorder, all the other Grand Officers, seventeen Past Grand Commanders, thirty-three Grand Representatives from fifty-eight Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander thus opens an eloquent and interesting address:

The autumnal days of another year, with skill divine, tints the hill-tops and valleys with a golden hue of sunset glory. Although all things human may cease to move, swift-winged time knows no rest, but speeds us on "with restless, unremitting stream." The vibrations of the mighty pendulum that marks time's flight, record the fact that since last we met in Annual Conclave we are one year's march nearer the great mysteries that lie within the eternal ages.

How short the period when compared with the year that is yet to open to us its hidden treasures of knowledge, wealth, and social advantages, unequaled in a decade of years in the lives of our forefathers, but when we consider the changes that have taken place during the year past we realize that time has faithfully done its work.

Once again we meet to mingle in knightly greetings. Whatever may have been the realities of the past, whatever the future may hold for us, let us make this a joyous and profitable occasion.

Under the head, "In Memoriam," he says:

The dark-winged messenger has advanced on noiseless pinions during the past Templar year upon the citadel of life, and many a strong and brilliant leader has been called to cross the narrow isthmus between the eternities, and is to-day, as a true Templar, assembled with those who have gone before upon the mountains of life eternal, dwelling as we sincerely hope in the sunlight of immortal glory. Upon our earthly memorial tablets of enduring marble their names have been engraved, and their memories are enshrined in our hearts.

Let us rise and with knightly love and friendship stand with bowed uncovered heads, while the Grand Recorder pronounces the names of those loved Past Commanders who have been summoned from among us by the Supreme Grand Commander and Architect of the Universe, to join the golden brigade in the great and unknown beyond, since last we met.

He granted twenty-seven dispensations, only one of which was to ballot out of time. He made several visitations and had "a good time" at each.

Under the head of "Uniforms," he remarks, after quoting the regulation requiring every member of a commandery to procure a uniform within three months from the time of being created a Templar; "I do not see how plainer or more emphatic language could be used." He then adds:

The Inspecting Officers took up the matter of uniforms with all of the Commanderies visited and made full reports upon the subject, and where an unusually large number in any one Commandery was reported as being without uniforms, I corresponded with the Eminent Commander regarding it, and inquired into the reason why uniforms had not been procured.

I will give you a few quotations taken from the correspondence:

First—"Some of our members are opposed to the show that the K. T. uniform makes upon the streets."

Second—"A number of our very best men become members of our Commandery simply to be Knights Templars, without any intention to ever participate in the labors of the Commandery, or of purchasing a uniform."

Third—"We have a few members who will not buy uniforms. They do not attend the Commandery meetings, and are only valuable as contributing members."

Fourth—"Some of our members are gouty and rheumatic, and could not march if they had uniforms."

Fifth—"One who has taken the Orders in our Commandery is a one-armed man, and for that reason will not purchase a uniform."

Sixth—"Some of our members would suffer suspension or expulsion (if they could not obtain a dimit) if required to procure uniforms."

These are a few of the reasons given for not complying with the requirements of this Grand Commandery.

Our deceased and lamented frater, William McKinley, was not opposed to the wearing of a Knight Templar uniform, and he signified his approval of it by being photographed in the full uniform of a Knight Templar.

Do you think that members should be admitted and enlist under our banner who refuse to comply with the rules and regulations of our Order, or to be allowed to retain membership after their refusal to comply.

To our mind the reasons assigned for failure to enforce the rule, are valid and have a halo of much horse sense hovering around them. If the uniform makes the Templar, as the tailor very often makes the man, a rigid enforcement of the rule, is all right; if not, then do not disturb those brethren that do not take stock in these things. We belong to the class of non observers; have been a Templar for forty years; was presented with a hundred dollar rig, during term as Grand Commander, wore it a couple of times at the Conclave over which we presided, then gave it away and have not had one on since. That was in '73, and yet, in the immortal language of Daniel Webster, deceased, as quoted by an Irishman; "I aint dead yet!"

He made but two decisions, the first of which we quote for the purpose of remarking that we do not concur: .

1. Held, that an objection made to the advancement of a Companion of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross is good and valid when filed with the Recorder of a Commandery by a member in good standing in said Commandery, when it appears that notice was not sent to the objector that the petition of the Companion (objected to) was to be balloted upon at a certain stated Conclave of the Commandery.

There is but one way, i. e. correct way, to stop a Red X Knight from taking the other Orders, and that is by preferring charges against him. If he has committed no Masonic or Templar offense, he has a right to go on and the member who wanted to black-ball him, but was not there to do it, has no kick due him, at all. He knew the stated Conclave would be held, just as well as the rest did and it was his duty to be there, unless he was sick, in jail or forty miles away. These post ballot objectors, when not present at the Conclave at which the ballot was had, have no rights, along these lines, that should be respected by any body. Personal or political prejudice against a companion should cut no figure in the question of his election to these Orders. We wonder if the "objector" ever thinks of what his obligations as a M. M., and R. A. M., require of him in his treatment of his brethren and companions. We doubt it. The address, as a whole, is an elegant paper. A fine picture of its author adorns the pamphlet. A fine face and a good head.

PROCEEDINGS.

These contain nothing of a startling or blood curdling character. We find some interesting reading in the "Annual Reports of Officers of the Ohio Masonic Home," and will briefly recount some of the most important matters contained in that report. The total receipts for the year ending July 31st, 1905, account of the "General Fund" was \$35,093.44, of which the Grand Chapter paid (per capita tax) \$4,941.25, and a donation of \$500; Grand Council, donation of \$500; Grand Commandery, donation, \$3,000. Grand Lodge, per capita tax, \$14,472.90 and donation, \$6,000. In addition to the above the following donations were made, by the same bodies, to the "Endowment Fund," Grand Council, \$1,500; Grand Chapter, \$2,000, and Grand Lodge, \$6,000! Total receipts, during the year for all the different "Funds," were \$50,423.10; total disbursements on all accounts, including buildings and betterments, of all sorts, maintenance and the erection of a \$10,000, Hospital, \$47,499.69. Excess of receipts over disbursements, \$2,923.41.

Number of inmates at time of report, 160, divided as follows: Men, sixty-seven; Women, thirty-seven; Boys, twenty-nine and Girls, twenty-seven. There were twelve honorably discharged during the year. Increase of number of inmates over last year, eleven. We presume that you would like to know what it cost for the single item of "Maintenance" for those one hundred and sixty inmates during that one year? Well the itemized bill foots up the neat little sum of \$28,222.01! Of this amount, \$10,269.87 was for the single item of "Table Supplies"! The balance is made up of sundry items incidental to an establishment of this kind, the principal on being, \$6,026.25, for "Pay Roll Main Building and General." In the light of these figures our little \$50,000, which we have accumulated by the hardest sort of work since we began the work in 1891, which, by the way, is the same year in which Ohio started the fund for her Home, looks exceedingly small and lonesome, and the utopian dreams of sundry and divers of our brethren are more than likely to end in a sad awakening.

If my memory serves me, and I think she does, our present Grand Master, submitted the report of a special committee, of which he was a member, at Water Valley, in which the possibility of the immediate establishment of our Home and the care and maintenance of a clientage all the way from one hundred to one thousand, was suggested with as much gravity as a judge would assume when sentencing a prisoner to immediate death, and the Grand Lodge swallowed the taffy without a gulp! A few figures more: The cost of maintenance per head, in that Home, was, in round numbers, \$176.00 per head; for the table alone, it was, \$61.10. Now our enthusiastic friends certainly anticipate a clientage of at least one hundred, which is not half what will desire to come in, (and if denied admittance, will make things hot and unpleasant) and assuming that the table expenses here will be as great as there, we have the nice little sum of \$6,110 as the cost of feed alone. Now the question that should actuate the American mind, is: Where is that \$6,110, to come from, as well as the cost of betterments, incidentals and so on? It is a physical impossibility

to run a Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home on wind, hot air, buncombe, or sentiment, hence the necessity of going slow.

We desire to remark, en passant, that we are as anxious for the success of the Widow's and Orphan's Home, of Mississippi as any other man on the job, but having lived in this world some years, and with our eyes and ears both open, we are opposed to trying to bore a two-inch hole with a gimlet. We are likewise opposed to be in a hurry in matters of this sort, believing that a delay of ten years is much to be preferred to going off half cocked and landing in the Poor House, at the end of two. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi went into the Orphan Asylum business in its semi-centennial year, started the thing at Lauderdale, put a Reverend Brother in charge of the funds and to gather in more of them, with the result that the Sky Pilot lit out for the land of the Canucks, leaving the treasury in a depleted condition and, at the next session, the asylum was defunct and the orphans in a bad way. That was an object lesson in going off half cocked that it would be as well for our hot air philanthropists to make a study of. Trusting that we have not exhausted your patience, while talking about this matter, we leave it in your hands.

Total membership, 11,644, a net gain of 466. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$13,003.06. Referring again to the Home figures, we find that the different Grand Bodies contributed the following amounts to that object, during the year ending July, 31st, 1905, viz: Grand Lodge, \$29,472.90, Grand Chapter, \$7,441.25; Grand Council, \$2,000 and Grand Commandery, \$3,000; total, \$41,914.15.

CORRESPONDENCE

Our good brother, Grand Recorder Bell, is the author of this document, which is his seventh offense, in this field. Like the other six, it is a good report, in which the doings of the entire Templar family of Grands, forty-six in number, Mississippi at Jaxson getting a couple of pages of kind and fraternal attention. He regrets the absence of Ohio from our report of last year. So do we, and the regret is augmented by the fact that it is not in our last report either. Why this is, we do not know, but presume the fault is with the irrepressible "Fred," as he is in the habit of doing wrong, while we are not. However, if the thing occurs again, he will regret it more than Brother John does being left out in the cold, or we for allowing that event to happen. Fred will, no doubt, try to saddle the blame on us, but, la! you can't always believe him, in a case of this sort.

Once there was an epidemic of some fatal disease, on a ship and as fast as the people died it was the duty of an old darkey to bring them up and throw their bodies overboard. One day he came up, from below, carrying a man who was struggling violently, as though he was very much alive. The Captain yelled at him: What are you going to do with that man! you black rascal, you! Going to bury him, sah! What are you going to bury him for? He's not dead! I know, Massa, he say he no dead, but

he's such a liar nobody knows when to beleib him, so here goes! The moral of this tale is secreted in the above. Find it!

Brother Bell copies a little from G. C. Burkitt's address and the report of the Law Committee to which it was referred, especially in regard to dispensations to ballot in a hurry and remarks that they apparently decide that several of the dispensations were a "little off color" but found no fault with the Grand Commander.

He has these to say of the celebrated Fred and your distinguished Reporter:

The Grand Recorder, our good friend Frederic Speed, presented a lengthy report, the principal part of which consisted of criticism of the Grand Encampment for its failure to act upon certain amendments proposed by the Grand Commandery of Mississippi. He states that the Grand Encampment "refused to permit the use of a shortened form of burial service." In this he is mistaken, as the Grand Encampment adopted the form submitted by the Grand Commandery of Ohio, which is much shorter than that heretofore in use, and greatly improved in other particulars.

A beautifully worded report on necrology was made by R. Em. Sir Knight Speed, paying loving tribute to the virtues of the illustrious Templar dead.

The Report on Correspondence is once more from the pen of R. Em. Sir Knight Enoch George DeLap, P. G. C. As usual, it is full of good things and readable from start to finish. We regret that he failed to receive our proceedings, and are at a loss to account for it, as they were duly forwarded early in December, and should have reached him in time for review.

Both Fred and this scribe are grateful. Further along he says, in regard to our fulminations against the central Body, last year:

"Brother DeLap concluded his report with a severe criticism of the Grand Encampment for failing to transact needed legislation, which is supplemented by a similar screed from the pen of Grand Recorder Speed. Now why didn't you attend the conclaves of the Grand Encampment and talk plain English to the delinquent legislators of that august body? It is doubtful whether you can accomplish anything in the way of needed legislation by writing long articles on the subject in a correspondence report."

Possibly not, probably not, in fact we are sure of it, but, pshaw! We can do as much by writing plain English to those fellows, as we can by letting off Hot Air, and it is easier to put it in writing." Our beloved Fred wishes us to insert what follows, as his part of this reply to Brother John: "I guess that's right. If we don't attend we might as well skedaddle up the chimney. And if we do attend, we will wish that we had remained at home, so far as any good can be done in effecting reforms; for the whole Tea Party is wedded to its idols, and bows down before the idea that the State bodies are but chattels, having no rights which a white man is bound to respect." Fred is right, as usual, and we concur.

We excerpt what follows, from his "Conclusion:"

In our review of Iowa, in reply to Sir Knight Babb, we have, at some length, given our reasons for the propriety of using the title "Knights Templars," instead of "Knights Templar," with references and authorities which to us are conclusive. That they may fail to convince those who deem *sound* the essential thing, or that *custom* changes the rules of English grammar, and turns wrong into right, we are well assured, but we did not enter into a revival of the discussion of the matter with that object in view. We did so for the purpose of informing many of the Sir Knights of our own jurisdiction who have arrived at manhood and been dubbed Knights of the Temple in later years, and who are probably not conversant with the subject. The controversy over this question in the Grand Encampment and in other Templar bodies, occurred thirty odd years ago, and is not generally known by the present generation of Templars. We therefore think we have not offended by giving a synopsis of its history, which may be of value, especially to the younger members of the Order.

We are inclined to think that our Brother John is on the wrong side of the fence, and shall so decide, unless a division is called for. It has been some time since we examined a grammar, but our preference is for the "Knights Templar" as opposed to "Knights Templars." Brother Bell has one too many of the letter "S." Custom makes law as well on these subjects, as in others, and the trend of custom is in favor of Brother Babb.

We have devoted a good amount of space to Ohio, for two reasons, First because we found something to talk about and, Secondly and lastly, because we have, seemingly neglected her for a couple of reports, although we did not mean to do so.

R. E. Frederick D. Geddis is Grand Commader; Grand Recorder and Correspondent, as before.

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OHIO—1906.

A special Conclave was held in the city of Lebanon, September, 10th, for the purpose of paying the last honors to Past Grand Commander, J. Kelly O'Neill, who departed this life September 8th, at the ripe age of eighty-six years, six months and twenty-four days.

Our good friend, Grand Recorder, Bell, acted as Grand Commander, with all the other stations filled by pro tempore appointment.

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The Sixty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Toledo, September 26th. Present: R. E. Frederick L. Geddes, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir John N. Bell, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Warder; sixteen Past Grand Commanders, 23 Grand Representatives, not including our's, a multitude of Past Commanders and representatives from fifty-eight Subordinate Commanderies. The opening was preceded by some welcoming speeches, a parade, banquet and a lot of enjoyment along other lines, from all of which we infer that they had a grand old time. We also infer, from glancing through the account, that the Masons of Toledo are of the aggressive, wide-awake and right sort. The

Grand Body met there nine years before and, during the interim, the Order there had almost doubled its membership. Six years ago their hall, or temple was destroyed, together with all its contents; to-day they have a magnificent Temple owned and occupied by the Masonic fraternity, all of which proves the entire truth of my estimate of the character of Toledo Masons and Templars.

We note, with satisfaction, that there is only a trace of reference to hospitality, in the welcoming speeches, nor was the piety of the early Templars paraded as an example for the "Buckeyes," which is also refreshing.

The Grand Commander's address is a complete resume of a creditable and painstaking administration, but is mostly local in its references. His first attention is to the memory and worth of the magnanimous dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions, and the list is a long one. Ohio lost two of its oldest Past Grand Commanders, Brothers O'Neill and Babcock, who, full of honors and of years, had passed to their reward. Peace to their ashes. Under the head of "California Relief" he contrasts the small amount contributed by his subordinates, with the more liberal giving of other bailiwicks, remarking, incidentally, that it is no evidence of a man's charitableness that he gives liberally, or otherwise. While this is exactly true, there are many people who will deny the proposition, but that makes no difference in the impregnability of the position taken.

He made quite a number of decisions, one among them being that it is unknighly for a whiskey selling Templar to sell wet goods to be drank on his premises, or words to that effect, from which we infer that it is all right for a Templar to sell liquid damnation by the quart, gallon or barrel, just so the buyer goes somewhere else to get drunk on it! There may be some fine moral distinction between the saloon keeper and the ordinary man who deals out the larger dose, but we are unable to see it and shall continue in the belief that the corner of hell set apart for wholesalers, is hotter than the saloonist's in exact proportion to the annual sales of each, in pints, quarts, gallons and barrels.

No Templar has any right, moral or religious, to sell, in any quantity, to any body, what will steal away his manhood, wreck his home, make it a hell on earth for his wife and children, take away their bread, their clothes, their pride in life, and every other desirable thing, and wind it all up by sending the buyer to a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's hell. An Institution founded upon the christian religion and the practice of the christian virtues can't afford to coddle up or embrace this sort of cattle or endorse their doings. A whiskey selling Templar, or Mason of any sort, is as much out of place in these Orders as the devil would be in heaven! The most of the decisions were unimportant, but generally correct.

He granted the usual batch of dispensations, but all for proper purposes. As a whole, the address is an admirable paper. A portrait of its author makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet. We excerpt his conclusion:

CONCLUSION.

SIR KNIGHTS: The statutes require me to present to you a written report of my official acts, a requirement which must account for, if it does not condone, both its all too great egotism and, though much I had purposed including has been omitted, its all too great prolixity.

My day is done. Upon an administrative year now closes the night. Its stone of the Great Temple is finished.

- “My new-cut ashlar takes the light
Where crimson-blank the windows flare;
By my own work, before the night,
Great Overseer I make my prayer.
- “If there be good in that I wrought,
Thy hand compelled it, Master, Thine;
Where I have failed to meet Thy thought
I know, through Thee, the blame is mine.
- “One instant’s toil to Thee denied
Stand’s all eternity’s offence,
Of that I did with Thee to guide
To Thee, through Thee, be excellence.
- “Who, lest all thought of Eden fade,
Bring’st Eden to the craftsman’s brain,
Godlike to muse o’er his own trade
And Manlike stand with God again.
- “The depth and dream of my desire,
The bitter paths wherein I stray,
Thou knowest Who hast made the Fire,
Thou knowest Who hast made the Clay!
- “One stone the more swings to her place
In that dread Temple of Thy Worth—
It is enough that through Thy grace
I saw naught common on Thy earth.”

The proceedings, while quite voluminous, are confined almost entirely to matters of local interest. The Grand Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$16,335.83. Grand Recorder reported a total membership of 12,487, a net gain of 843. The Buckeyes are making rapid strides towards the head of the Host and Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts and Rhode Island had best get a move on themselves, or they will get left, in the, not remote, future.

The report of the Superintendent and Secretary of the Orphan’s Home, is a part of the minutes and is interesting. They report receipts from all sources of \$37,897.15 of which the Grand Lodge contributed \$24,490, \$6,000 of which was a donation; Grand Chapter, \$5,826, \$500 being a donation; Grand Council, and Grand Commandery donated \$3,000 each. The disbursements were as follows: For betterments, \$6,290.69; for Maintenance, \$31,928.77. Total clientage, 174, a gain of 14 over last year. You will readily see, by the foregoing figures that it costs something to run a Masonic Home as well as a hotel.

(We forgot to note, in its proper place, the fact that the Mayor, in his speech, claimed to be the son of a Methodist preacher; that our good brother Melish responded to the Mayor's speech and, also, claimed to be the son of a minister, and that Brother Lyttle who made the welcoming speech on behalf of the Templars of Toledo, is likewise a preacher's son! It is not impossible that, if due investigation was made, it would be found that all the "Big Wigs" present were either preachers, sons of preachers or closely related to the cloth in some way. We are also the son of a Methodist preacher and used to travel a circuit, by proxy, of course, and it was the consensus of opinion in those days, that the preacher's sons were the worst boys on the job! Every general rule has its exceptions, and we are the exception, in this instance, as we have always been a good boy. We received this pamphlet to-day, by the kindness of our brother John, who expressed it to us. We had received and reviewed his correspondence report, and wrote him to that effect, hence his action in the premises. We sent our report to Fred last week, but this will have to go in or there will be serious trouble for that same Fred. Bless his dear old heart!)

CORRESPONDENCE.

This part of the work, or pamphlet, is from the brain, scissors and pencil, possibly pen, of our valued friend and brother, Grand Recorder Bell and, like all his work, is perfect in all its parts and complete as a whole.

The minutes of forty-six Grand Bodies are carefully considered and properly digested in this paper, and it takes one hundred and twenty-eight pages to hold it all. Whatever our brother's hands find to do, is done well, and the present report is no exception to the rule.

Brother John has the courage of his convictions, as well as the ability to maintain them, as quite a number of the boys will find out when they read his report. Some of them take issue with him as to the correctness of the title, "Knights Templars," but he comes out ahead each time. As we agree, entirely, with our brother John, that ought to settle the matter and stop the discussion, but we fear it will not, mores the pity.

His attention to our doings at Brookhaven is full, courteous, flattering and kind.

He sees the "pint" and quotes Brother Dixon's bon mot in his praise of the redoubtable "Fred," "equaled by none and surpassed by few," but makes no comment. He calls that same "Fred" to order for using "Past Eminent Commanders" instead of "Past Commanders" and we are disposed to agree with him, if for no better reason, because it saves writing a word. Fred will, no doubt, charge our opinion up to our laziness, but that cuts no ice with us, and he ought to know it, if he does not. He also gives Fred a little taffy on the excellence of his Necrological Report, which he characterizes as being a beautifully written and tender tribute, all of which is true, but sometimes it is better to suppress the truth, but never, however, at the cost of a lie. I am not disposed to deny to Fred the mede of praise that is justly his due, but, as he is

naturally vain, I am fearful that too much taffy will make him think he is a greater than he is, or than I am. That is all.

Coming down to the report of your "distinguished" committee, he says that our opening chorus is "unique"! possibly it is, but "unique" things are what catches the eye of the reader. We don't like to work well enough to sit down and get off a lot of platitudes, either original or selected, that no one will read, hence the "uniquity" of our style.

John does not like to work for nothing and board himself, any better than we do, nor does he sit down and string a lot of words together and call the result a "Report," but he does get up a report that it will pay his constituents to read, and we hope they are sensible enough to do it. He then continues:

"What follows is characteristic of all Enoch George's reports. He handles all questions without gloves, and writes plain English, which requires no interpreter to be fully understood." He quotes our interesting essay on the origin of "The Brother in Black," prefacing the excerpt as follows:—

"Under Iowa we find this very interesting statement of Brother De Lap's views and belief regarding the negro, in answer to the questions propounded by Brother Babb of that Bailiwick, and although it is somewhat lengthy, it will fully repay perusal."

We are obliged, Brother John. He complains, and justly, that Ohio does not find a place in our last report, a fact that we as much regret as he can, but for which we are not in fault, at least we do not believe we are. Fred is probably the culprit in this case as in many others. It is likely that he will deny it just as the sick passenger did that he was dead, when Sambo came dragging him along for the purpose of throwing him to the sharks." Capt. What are you going to do with that man, you black rascal? Sambo. Gwine to bury him, Sah! What are you going to do that for? He's not dead! I know he say no daid, but he's such a liar nobody eber knows when to belebe him!"

We never like to go to press and leave out the Buckeye Boys, but we cannot write a sermon without some sort of a text. Unlike many "Sky Pilots" when we take a text we talk about it, and we would be glad if those that we hear would follow our example, but they won't.

Brother Bell sent us a copy of his report in advance, but when the proceedings will come to us, only the good Lord knows. We hope, however, in ample time for us to get them in. He has something to say in regard to delay in publishing proceedings, in his "Conclusion," a part of which we excerpt. On second thought we take it all:

We fail to understand why some of the proceedings are so late in issuing. In some instances more than six months elapse after the close of the Conclave before the printed proceedings are issued; a delay for which no apparent excuse exists, and in cases such as ours, where the report of the Committee on Correspondence is printed prior to the Conclave, is the cause of considerable vexation.

The terrible calamity that befell San Francisco, occurring on the day preceeding the date fixed for the Annual Conclave, prevented its being

held at that time, and it was postponed until a later date, but at this writing, we are uninformed as to the date it was held or the business transacted. The Masonic fraternity suffered greatly in the total destruction of the Masonic Temple, which had stood for nearly half a century. It cost nearly \$250,000, and when built was considered one of the finest Masonic Temples in America. It had become too small, however, to accommodate the many Masonic bodies occupying it, and a new and more modern building is in contemplation, and we understand plans are now being formulated for several other new Masonic buildings in the city. By the destruction of the Masonic Temple, nearly all the records of the Grand Lodge, and those of twenty Masonic bodies which met in the Temple, were totally destroyed, including one hundred and fifty portraits of Past Grand Officers, and five hundred hand embroidered uniforms belonging to California Commandery No. 1. It was indeed a terrible disaster, and the sympathies of the fraternities throughout the world have been extended to the sufferers therefrom, and financial aid contributed to a large amount.

That the world is growing better and that all classes of people are becoming imbued with clearer ideas of the meaning of fraternity, are facts which are daily made manifest. In one day in a Western city, three men risked their lives to save the lives of others. One of the rescuers met death in his effort, another was probably fatally injured. A newspaper has this comment:

Why were these brave deeds done? Why did these men risk their lives and one of the three lose his? Was there a dollar to be made? Not one! Was there any "graft" to be had? None! Were they under any obligations or tie of kinship or friendship? None whatever! What did they "make" by doing what they did? Nothing. They were simply passers-by.

And it is in the crowd of the passers-by that is found the proof of the condemnation of pessimism, which insists that human nature is going backward and the finer feelings and impulses of humanity deteriorating. When the greatest of all writers—save the inspired writers—told of that touch of nature that made the whole world kin, he wrote not only for his own glorious age of literature, but for all time, and he wrote of all men. There was absolutely nothing to be gained by either of the three every-day heroes.

If there is degeneracy to-day in the American people it is in that portion which delights in pessimism and in gauging the other portions—the magnificently larger portions—according to the capacity of its own exceedingly small measure.

A question has been propounded what is fraternalism? and it has been found difficult to answer. The nearest approach to a satisfactory definition we found in a recent number of the "Outlook." It first states that fraternalism is a spirit and not a method. We extract a portion of the article as expressing our own views on the subject and also, as we believe, embodying the principles that animate and govern the great Masonic fraternity in all its various branches.

Fraternalism involves mutual respect of class for class, race for race, church for church, individual for individual. It involves mutual interest, regard for the welfare of others, looking not upon one's own things only but on the things of one's neighbor, a desire for his prosperity, a regret for his misfortune. It involves rejoicing with those who rejoice and weeping with those who weep. It involves pity for their sorrows, mercy for their errors and their sins, sharing with them their misfortunes, bearing for them their burdens. It involves helping the lame, the halt, and the blind, and endeavoring to redeem and recover from their wrong-doing the criminal. Fraternalism is co-operation, combination, fellowship, uniting with one's fellows in government, in philanthropy, in industry in order to promote the common welfare. Fraternalism is the parable of the Faith-

ful Steward, the parable of the Good Samaritan, the parable of the Prodigal Son—for fraternalism is illustrated in that parable authentically by the spirit of the elder brother. Fraternalism is to do unto others as we would have others do unto us. It is to love one's neighbor as one's self. It is to give with simplicity, to rule with diligence, to show mercy with cheerfulness, to be inspired with a love that is without pretense, to be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another. It is to be of the same mind one toward another; to mind not high things, but to condescend to men of low estate.

With this sentiment in view, and with "malice toward none and charity for all," we close our Eighth Annual Report.

R. E. Sir John H. Gibson is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

OKLAHOMA—1906.

The Eleventh Annual Conclave was held in the city of Oklahoma City February, 16th. There were present: R. E. Sir William J. Pettee, Grand Commander; E. Sir George William Spencer, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except four, Grand Prelate, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Standard Bearer and Grand Warder; four Past Grand Commanders and Representatives from nine, out of ten, Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a brief reume of a successful, though uneventful administration. He reports the Order to be in a peaceful, healthy and growing condition, the growth being somewhat phenominal. He issued dispensations for two new commanderies and turned them loose with authority to "make Templars at sight," uses the word "Templarism" and does other things, none of them, however, being disreputable except the one last named. He mentioned the subject of a merger with Indian Territory Grand Commandery as likely to result as soon as the two jurisdictions are United into one State of the Federal Union, which is most likely they will be before Congress adjourns its present session, unless it is shown that the legislature of the new State would elect a Democrat to the Senate, in which case they will remain out in the cold "until their Republican beards be grown." There is lots of disinterested patriotism in our modern politicians and political parties—in a horn!

PROCEEDINGS

Were routine and of local interest, only. The treasury has a balance, on the right side, of \$1,654.52, \$275.00 of which is in the Grand Treasurer's hands, who had deposited in a Guthrie bank which went "up the flume" and left him to hold the bag. As he is thoroughly honest, but good, we move that his books be squared and the incident closed in that way. "The quality of mercy is not strained," nor is it in consonance with the principles of the Gospel to, like Shylock, demand the pound of flesh. Total membership, (We regret our inability to find the information we started to give you, in the commencement of this paragraph, but as the record is silent on the subject, we give it up.)

We note one peculiarity about the minutes, and that is the failure to state, in a number of instances, what disposition is made of the reports of committees. Out of four reports of committees, the disposition made of but one is recorded, and out of eleven resolutions, but one is recorded as being adopted or rejected. We are glad to note that one of the ten covered the same ground as does our motion recorded above, so it seems that the Grand Treasurer's books will be balanced without further grinding of the face of a poor but good man, because some rascal or rascals saw fit to wreck a bank.

There is no Report on Correspondence, more's the pity.

R. E. Charles Paul Wickermiller is Grand Commander; E. Sir George William Spencer, Grand Recorder.

OREGON—1906.

The Twentieth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Pendleton, September, 27th. Present: R. E. Sir David C. Agler, Grand Commander; E. Sir James F. Robinson, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Treasurer and Grand Sword Bearer; five Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, eleven Grand Representatives and Delegates from eight out of the nine Subordinate Commanderies. Our representative was non est come-et-i-bus. Let him be thrown into the "donjon keep," at once!

The Grand Commander's address is one of the short kind, five pages, but it is long enough to contain what he had to say to the brethren, and having said it, he quit, and we commend him for it. What a relief it would be if this thing was to invade the pulpits and thus relieve the sufferings of many an afflicted congregation who are weekly treated to a surfeit of hot air, frequently in its raw state and without condiments. It is a fact, patent to the most obtuse mind, that some preachers and, also, some Grand Commanders, pass by many excellent as well as proper places where it would be in order for them to say "Finally brethren, Farewell, etc."!

The address is an elegant paper, but contains nothing of interest to the outside world.

Death has been kind to them, as none of the members of the Grand Body were called away during the year.

The proceedings are devoid of special interest. The Grand Treasurer reported a balance, on the right side, of \$3,120.12, which is good. Total membership, 865, a gain of 44. It took only twenty-six pages of the pamphlet to hold the entire proceedings. The entire pamphlet contains one hundred and sixty-six pages, fifty-two for minutes, statistics, etc., and what is known as the "Appendix," the balance, say one hundred and fourteen pages, this latter being our brother Hobson's remarks on Correspondence! This is a practical illustration of the tail wagging the dog! Not that there is any of the dog blood or peculiarities about our Oregon

brethren, because there is not, if we except the dog's character for fidelity to his master, his unselfish devotion which makes us love him. But what we object to is the amount of space brother Hobson takes up. It also reminds us of "Fred's address, when Grand Commander, which took up three-fourths of the pamphlet and took two hours "to pass a given point!" We presume, 'though, that it is all right, as both Fred and brother H. seldom speak without saying something, and when they write it is just the same, hence we are not kicking, at all.

Forty-two jurisdictions are carefully digested, i, e, their minutes are, in this report, Mississippi at Brookhaven getting nearly three pages of pleasant notice. He opens on us with the following verse:

"Work a little, sing a little,
Whistle and be gay;
Read a little, think a little,
Take some time for play;
Talk a little, laugh a little,
Busy every day;
Be a bit of merry sunshine
All the blessed way."

"We are not aware of our Mississippi fraters needing this advice more than others, but we do know that several of them take themselves seriously, and a little jollying up might do them good."

You are right, brother John, but name the son-of-a-gun that "takes himself seriously," in this bailiwick, and we will see that he is removed! We might name a number that think they are "IT," but we never supposed they were serious about it. The error is too glaring.

His attention to Grand Commander Dixon's address is very full. He says it is well written, but "devoted principally to elegantly turned phrases touching the memory of the dead and exhorting the fraters to deeds of more exalted usefulness."

Of our beloved brother, G. C. Waddell, he says: "The book of proceedings is ornamented with fine half tones of Sir D. B. Waddell, present G. C., and Sir F. P. Jenkins, P. G. C., the latter having laid aside his armor during the year."

Copying the suggestion that our women be invited to the Xmas Toast exercises, he says:

Which proves to us that his heart is in the right place, for shut the women out of religious exercises and the whole matter would soon become a barren ideality. The Christmas toast may not have been invented with a religious or even very serious thought, but development in that direction is the salt that will probably save it.

Of our report he says:

Sir E. G. DeLap, Past Grand Commander, again produced sixty-six pages of his inimitable correspondence. Oregon for 1905 has courteous

attention. He very properly assumes that the "Jaguar" was intended for him, but all the same, if we thought it needed twisting we would risk the trouble he hints at, as a little trouble now and then is relished by all merry men.

He does not like some of the Grand Encampment laws; neither do we, but we are not quite so radical. He says:

As these laws are subversive of the true principles of the Order as well as presumptions, it is in order to pay no attention to them.

As either policy or principle, that is wrong. If a law is bad, execute it rigidly and it does not usually take long to change it. Ignore a law and you not only violate your obligation, but form habits which are liable to get you in the way of ignoring all law, when you don't happen to like it.

If we were twenty years younger and desirous of having a hot time in the old town, we would say something concerning his deduction from the Biblical account of the creation of man, and his idea that the negro race is merely the connecting link between the "Sons of God" and "the Daughters of Men." He will probably be surprised when he gets to heaven to find Booker T. Washington with more stars in his crown and sitting nearer the throne than he or I will ever be able to get. If he will read his Bible again, this time with his prejudices excluded, and in the light of common sense, he may discover that the whole snake story is a Hebrew myth derived from the ancient Egyptians, and not warranting the very serious and absurd deductions he makes; such as, that the "Serpent" was a negro, etc. Now, Brother De Lap, for your own credit as a reasoner, don't do it any more.

Regarding the last paragraph, in which reference is made to our impregnable position on the origin of the negro, we beg to suggest to our brother John, that it is likely as well that he is not twenty years younger and thus steers clear of a discussion in which he is on the wrong side and would, infallibly, get left. We are not expecting to be surprised by seeing Booker T. Washington and his starry decked crown, when we get to heaven. No doubt he will be provided with a heavenly home, but it will be in another part of the "Universe of God," just as the line of demarcation is sharply drawn, by the hand of God, between the two races in this world of our's. God drowned this world once, primarily for the sin of amalgamation between them, and it is not likely that there has been sufficient change in the Divine Mind, which is theologically supposed to be unchangeable, to induce Him to provide a common heaven for both. Neither shall I expect to see brother Hobson there until he repents of styling the "Word of God," or any part of it, "a myth." Bob Ingersoll, recently deceased, was also of the opinion that Moses made some mistakes in his account of the creation, but an alleged letter from him, dated, Hades conveyed the intelligence that he had changed his mind and is now of the opinion that Moses was very much nearer right, and made less "mistakes" both in kind and volume, than he did, and that is the way it will be with brother John, unless he repents and does his "first works" over again. It is too often the custom for us to call things we do not understand, "Myths," forgetting that, unlike Job's three friends, "wisdom will die with them," and there are some TRUTHS which pass our comprehension. I beg to demur, also, to his suggestion of prejudice in my mind against the negro, individually or as a race. The exact contrary is true, and

there is no one in all this land that feels more kindly towards them than I do, but while this is true it is not true that I believe now, or ever will, that there should be social, or political equality between them and the white race, as it is contrary to the palpable designs of God in the creation of the two. Josh Billings said: "The mule is half horse and half jackass, and there comes to a full stop, Nature having discovered her mistake. His birth is an outrage, and man is to blame for it!" The same rule applies to the negro and the white man and if it applies there, it applies all along the line, socially, politically and every other way. But enough of this, for the present.

Our borther John always gets up a good report, even if he is not always right in his convictions. We always like to run up on a man that has "convictions" and the "courage of those convictions."

R. E. Sir George H. Burnett, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

PENNSYLVANIA—1906.

The Fifty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Pittsburg, May, 22nd. There were present: R. E. Sir William J. Deihl, Grand Commander; E. Sir William W. Allen, Grand Recorder; thirty-two Past Grand Commanders, twenty-eight Grand Representatives, (including brother Jno. F. Rau, for Mississippi), and Representatives of all the Subordinate Commanderies, save one.

The address of the Grand Commander is a well-written, somewhat flowery, diadactic and rather lengthy resume of a creditable but rather uneventful administration. It covers twenty-four pages of the pamphlet, but is confined, almost entirely, to matters of local interest. He granted a small multitude of dispensations, but none of them in the "rapid transit" line, which is remarkable. He also refused a lot of requests, some of them to rush things through, "without regard to age, sex or previous condition of servitude." The end of the last sentence forcibly recalls "Reconstruction" times, when the "bottom rail was on top and when puny man endeavored to subvert the laws of God and amalgamate what He intended should be separate and not mix. Politics are responsible for more sin, suffering and general cussedness than is whiskey.

He also made a number of decisions, but none of them of sufficient importance to report. His "Conclusion" covers three pages and a half. His portrait adorns the pamphlet. The proceedings were routine and of local interest, mostly. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$9,326.97; total membership, 17,683, a net gain of 870.

The report on the Masonic Home, of Pennsylvania, states that the Institution was opened on New Year's day, 1885, with one inmate and total assets of \$101.17! while at the time of the report it contained eighty-six inmates and its assets amounted to \$287,149.00! "What hath God wrought!" Brother William L. Elkins, deceased, was a great friend of the Home and, previous to his death, expressed the intention of founding

a Masonic Orphanage, for girls, and his family have determined to carry out his known wishes on this subject.

Such a monument as this, will be something to be proud of.

The "Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in that bailiwick, is composed of five members, with our valued friend and brother, Lee Smith, Past Grand Commander, as the head, who is the author of the report. It covers one hundred and twelve pages, reviews the minutes of forty-five Templar Grands, including Mississippi at Jaxson, and is up to the usual high standard of brother Smith's work.

Under Illinois and discussing the question of commanderies drilling on Sunday, he says:

Personally we would go stronger and further than the Grand Commander by favoring the issuing of an order positively forbidding such a practice, as this is a virtual desecration of the Sabbath, as it certainly is not in accordance with the moral law and foundation principles of all Masonic Bodies. The Grand Commander recommended and the Grand Commandery approved the idea of hereafter calling a conference of inspecting officers for the purpose of arranging for Inspecting Subordinate Commanderies only by the regular Inspecting Officer. It was decided upon adoption of the report of the Committee that \$500.00 be placed at the disposal of the proper committee to take into consideration the proper observance of the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Grand Commandery.

We endorse all that brother Smith has said in the above. Commandery drill is neither work of necessity or mercy, and anything not included in the above, that is done on the Sabbath is a desecration of that Day, no matter whether it is done in the morning or at night; no matter whether it is done during the hours usually devoted to public worship, or any other hour, and it is a matter of surprise to us that a question of the sort should be asked or discussed. It shows, very plainly that there are many members of the Order who are profoundly ignorant of its character and the basis on which it rests, which is regrettable.

Brother Smith's attention to us is full, pleasant and fraternal. He quotes brother Burkitt's remarks in regard to dispensations to ballot on the jump, and remarks: After granting a number of dispensations for balloting without waiting statutory time, his conscience seems to have troubled him, or else he was in fear of the "Judgment to Come, as he offers the above."

We beg to suggest to our brother that the redoubtable "Frank" is afraid of nothing and that he has no conscience. However, he means well, has the courage of his convictions and is a mighty good fellow to tie to, in an emergency. We copy what he has to say of your distinguished Reporter:

Brother E. G. DeLap again presents the report on correspondence, and like all of Bro. DeLap's reports it makes good reading. This writer has a habit of calling a spade a spade without any apology to anybody. Pennsylvania for 1904 has due notice. Referring to a decision by our

Grand Commander that a person convicted of fraud a few years ago and sentenced, that in his judgment such a man does not possess the requisite moral qualifications, he adds:

"We are disposed to demur to the decision, assuming that the convict had repented, reformed and brought forth fruits indicative of these facts, which he must have done or his petition would not have been received. If my brother sin against me, and repent, how oft' shall I forgive him? Till seven times? The Master replied: 'I say not till seven times, but until seventy times seven.' Keep in touch with the basis of your Order, my Brethren. If the Lord treated us as we treat our erring Brethren, but few of us would escape hell. The decision may be all right, under existing conditions, but we are discussing the subject in the light of our fundamental principles. It is not a question of forgiveness at all, but of character—whose image and superscription is this, Ceasar's? The man stamped upon himself a character that leaves its indelible mark which cannot be effected by our condoning the fault."

We are inclined to agree with Brother DeLap, for after all is said a man's fitness depends more on what he now is, rather than what he has been.

For the purpose of calling attention to an interpolation, by the indomitable Fred, in brother Smith's excerpt from our report. Kindly read it down to the word "principles." Then read what follows and you will see that it makes me appear to be what Morford, of Arizona, says we are, i. e., an Ass! as the sentiment conveyed in Fred's appendix runs completely counter to the ideas expressed by us. Had he enclosed his fulmination in brackets and put his name to it, it would have been all right, but he didn't and we are holding the bag. Notwithstanding his positive assertion that it is not a "question of repentance," at all, etc., we are not disposed to back down a step, and insist that our view of the matter is correct, in the light of the fundamental principles of the Order and the Gospel of our Lord. We are glad that brother Smith is on our side.

We excerpt a part of his Conclusion:

Our reading and reviewing of the proceedings for the current Templar year has as usual been a pleasant one, though it has been done from under the darkest cloud that can overshadow a man's life, caused by the death of one of the best, purest, most self-sacrificing and loving wives that ever blessed the home of mortal man. For thirty-seven years we lived together as companions and fellow-travelers through the pilgrimage of life. Together we traveled the world over, and around, but on October 16, 1905, she peacefully started on that last journey which we must each travel alone. The memory of her life is a blessed heritage to her bereaved husband and son, and she met death as only a true Christian can. And we must take up our duties and the burthens of life alone.

We beg to extend our sincerest sympathy. Woman, her own sweet, faithful, devoted self is the perfection of God's creation, while a wife such as brother Smith describes and such as God blest his life with, during those thirty-seven years, is the crowning glory of the handiwork of the Creator of all things. What a halo surrounds the name of Wife and Mother! God is inexpressibly good to a man when he gives him a good, faithful and devoted wife, and there is but one ray of comfort when

death comes and takes her away, and that is the hope and expectation of a reunion with her in that "upper and better country," where the parting hand is never taken, where no inhabitant ever says: "I am sick or suffering and where sin, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more." We'll never say "Good bye" in Heaven, dear Brother. Earnestly praying that the comforting influences of the Holy Spirit may fill our brother's heart and commending him to the care and keeping of the Master, who never afflicts us but for some wise and loving purpose, we take our leave of our afflicted brother.

R. E. Sir William M. Donaldson is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1906.

The Twenty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Sioux Falls, June, 15th. There were present: R. E. Sir John Banks, Grand Commander; E. Sir G. A. Pettigrew, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers; ten Past Grand Commanders, twenty-seven Grand Representatives, including brother Coddle for Mississippi, a lot of Past Commanders and Delegates from Fourteen Chartered Commanderies and two U. D.s

There were no welcoming speeches and nothing said about "hospitality" at from two to ten dollars per diem, not including liquid and other luxurious refreshments. Good.

The Grand Commander's address is a short, but well-written resume of an uneventful administration, in which we find nothing of special interest to outsiders. He granted two dispensations to ballot on the jump, under which twenty-four companions were put through under each one, or forty-eight in all! This is tolerably fair and we are not disposed to complain. His portrait makes a nice frontispiece to the pamphlet.

The proceedings were of the usual routine and local character. Total membership, 1101, a gain of 124. Treasury balance, on the right side, \$1,268.82.

Seventy-five pages of the pamphlet are occupied by Brother Sam Jumper's report on correspondence, his eleventh in regular order, in which the minutes of thirty-nine Templar Grands receive careful and courteous attention, our own, at Brookhaven, getting her full share. His attention to our doings is quite full and fraternal. He quotes liberally and approvingly from Brother Dixon's address, has a pleasant word for your Reporter, which is appreciated, says our report would be a good one, if we did not flatter people, etc. We rise to remark that if we ever, intentionally, flattered anybody it was when we were asleep. The BOOK says: "He that speaketh flattery to his friend, even the eyes of his children shall fail." Assuming that the flattery he talks about was to himself, we would be glad to know if brother Sam would have preferred for us to wait until he is dead before giving voice to the honest convictions of our heart, as to his ability as a reviewer, his loveliness as a man, and any other of the

brighter traits of character that are commonly considered when we are making an estimate of what a man is? Personally we much prefer, if our friends think well of us, that they tell us so before the Lord calls us home to heaven. What they may say in a necrological report, or on our tombstone, will be of little worth to us. Possibly Brother Sam prefers the post mortem eulogy, and, if so, and he will advise us of the fact, we won't speak well of him again, until after he has joined the great majority. When we think a man deserves it we praise him; if we think he needs skinning, we do our best to accommodate him, and there is no flattery in the one, nor malice in the other. We copy what he says:

Sir E. G. De Lap who signs himself "Reporter of Correspondence," again presents one of the most readable reports it has been our pleasure to review. He is always fresh and sparkling like good wine. He hits hard once in a while, but the gloves he wears are so thick and soft the blow falls lightly. He gives us seventy pages of review tinged a little now and then with sadness, no doubt reflected by the sad scenes witnessed during the presence of the yellow scourge in his city.

South Dakota comes in for two full pages of favorable comment, almost amounting to flattery. Outside of this we count his report one of the very best.

Brother Sam indulges in neither a prologue or epilogue, but just leaves the thing in that disreputable shape, which is regrettable. Nevertheless, notwithstanding, but, Sam is all right and we wish him all sorts of good luck and happiness in this world, and in that to come, life everlasting and an Eternity of blessedness.

R. E. Sir Charles A. Howard, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

TENNESSEE—1906.

The Forty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Bristol, May, 23rd. Present: R. E. Sir James C. Smith, Grand Commander; E. Sir John B. Garrett, Grand Recorder; all the other star Officers, six Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, nineteen Grand Representatives and Delegates from fifteen Subordinate Commanderies.

The opening was preceded by a spread eagle welcoming speech, by brother Caldwell, in which considerable reference is made to the performances of the early Templars, particular stress being laid upon those of the "Middle Ages." He said that the original purpose and obligation of knighthood was to vindicate justice, avenge wrong and defend the weak and unprotected, also the oppressed! Now it occurs to us that, if this was the "original" purpose, it was badly carried out, in the later history of the Order, or else history is a liar. Further: That whatever may have been its inherent vices and defects it is indisputable that it embodied some of the noblest sentiments, etc., etc. All of which is true, as will be seen by the declaration of fundamental principles recited above.

Unfortunately, however, the declaration was about all there was of it, and as it is a fact, patent to all, that "declarations" alone cut but a small figure in the betterment of the moral, religious, political or social character of the people of any age, and that was what ailed the early Templars and Crusaders. He adds: "The Red Cross and the sword of the Templar of the Middle Ages, indelibly impressed upon a militant, but religiously dormant world, the cardinal truths of the Christian religion, etc., etc." Just so! "indelibly" is a good word and very apropos in this place, as there can be no doubt of the indelibility of the impression made on a man when you chop his head off. Of course the impression cuts but little ice on the man's moral or religious betterment, in fact it lays him out and he does, so to speak, "Go 'way back and sits down" in the most comprehensive light in which one can view that performance. The successors of Mahomet Moslemised more than half the population of the globe, but they did it with the sword, sharpened and wielded by a fanaticism only equaled by the modern admirers of the early Templars and the successors of Peter, "The Hermit's" ragamuffins. The Master never intended that His Gospel of Peace should be driven down men's throats at the point of a sword, the muzzle of a gun, or of rapid-fire cannon. People that are driven into "the kingdom of heaven," will find St. Peter not disposed to open the gates of the Celestial City to them, but will tell them to go to hell, where they wanted, so bad to go, and where they belong. Of the Templars of this great and glorious country, he says: "As an organized agency for good, the Knights Templar of America stand head and shoulders above all other orders outside of the Church of Christ, and, as a consecrated band of six hundred thousand souls, present a solid front against oppression and injustice to men. Now there are lots of good men in the Order, in this country, no doubt. Were it otherwise this scribe would feel tolerably lonesome, but the number of "consecrated" ones is rather small, in our opinion, using the word "consecrated" in its usually accepted sense. If a man swears like a pirate, curses like a trooper and drinks intoxicants to excess, I feel reluctant to class him among the "consecrated" crowd, and yet there are lots, and lots of Templars belonging to that six hundred thousand, that do these things. But enough of this. Ephriam is joined to idols of self righteousness, let him alone.

We are more than glad to note the entire absence of the word "hospitality," in the address, which makes us feel better. The Grand Commander made the response, and it is a good one. We clip something for you to read to your wives, mothers and sweethearts:

Wherever you find a true Knight you are assured of protection. I will demonstrate this by telling you the story of an actual occurrence. A Templar's wife set out hastily, by rail, upon a journey of some little distance to attend the bedside of a dying sister. Just as she was leaving, her husband placed upon her breast, suspended from her neck, his Knight Templar charm, upon which were his mark and his name. Because the train on which she was traveling did not stop at the station where her sister lived, she was about to be compelled to remain at a junction to wait for the local train, which would stop at her destination,

and this would have caused her to be too late. The conductor, seeing the charm and thereby becoming interested in her, hurried for the superintendent, who examined the charm, noting the inscription, and ordered the train stopped at that station, which it had never before been known to do. A few moments after her arrival the sister passed away. If this woman had waited for the local train, she would have been unable to see her sister alive. Wives, sisters, mothers, wear your Knight Templar charms! They are a protection to you; they constitute the insignia which will ever enlist in your welfare the men who alone can correctly interpret the mystic shield and characters, when you are in need.

The address of the Grand Commander is a brief resume of an entirely uneventful but creditable administration, in which we find nothing of general interest. He issued a few dispensations along the old lines, which was all right. He made no decisions.

Aside from his reference in his "Opening Chorus," to the original Templars, which savors strongly of the chestnut, the address is all right.

PROCEEDINGS

Were routine and of local interest. They had devotional services at the Presbyterian Church and a rather good sermon from Ezekiel 4-28, by brother Williams. The text is rather long and decidedly opaque to the ordinary man, but our brother throws considerable light on its meaning. As there are plenty of other passages in God's Word that are perfectly plain and that point the way of life very plainly, we respectfully refer you to them, suggesting, at the same time, that you read the whole Book carefully and you won't bother your heads much about the meaning of Ezekiel's wheels or his peculiar creatures, having four different faces and so forth. It is not essential to your final salvation that you shall be able to interpret or explain the meaning of what the prophet saw on that occasion, so don't worry about it. The preacher's ideas, though plausible, are simply conjecture and you don't want to waste your eternal interests on anything but plain facts. If we had been the preacher we would have taken a text from the New Testament, which does away with all these signs and symbols. However, it is none of our business and we subside.

Grand Treasurer reported a cash balance on hand of \$610.09. Total membership, 1218, a gain of 127. There is no report on Correspondence, although the publication of the proceedings was delayed some time, waiting for them. What is the matter with brother Ingersoll? We hope and pray that he is not sick.

R. E. Sir Charles Henry Harvey, is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before.

TEXAS—1906.

The Fifty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Waco, April, 25th, with the following named officers et. al. in attendance: R. E. Sir Thomas F. Harwood, Grand Commander; E. Sir John Carson Kidd, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, except the Grand Treasurer;

seven Past Grand Commanders, twenty-three Grand Representatives, not including our's, a multitude of Past Commanders and Representatives from thirty-three Subordinate Commanderies.

The opening was preceded by Devotional Offices, in public. Rev. John K. Black, Grand Prelate preached a short sermon, or essay, from Joshua XVIth chapter and 2nd verse which records the death, or suicide of Samson, and for fear that his text was not long enough, he added the IX verse of the XXVI chapter of 1st Samuel, recording Abishai's proposition to kill Saul, the king, and David's reply. From these two passages he talked about heroism and heroes. While admitting that Samson was rather a hard case, in some respects, he calls his action, in pulling down the building and killing the lords of the Philistines and himself, also, not only sublimely heroic, but patriotic as well, assuming that Samson sacrificed his own life and those of the Philistines, for the benefit of his country, when the fact was that he was actuated, entirely, by motives of revenge for the loss of his eyes. So far as patriotism was concerned, in the transaction, it was not in evidence at all. At least that is the way we figure the thing out, and it is a cold day in August when we are in error! It was the evident intention of the preacher to excite a spirit of the right sort of heroism in the Templars of Texas, and while we do not expect any remarkably satisfactory results from his effort; we none the less commend his attempt to perform so great a work. There are lots of heroes in this old world of our's, but the best of them fail to be recorded, except in the Book which John saw, on the Isle of Patmos, from which judgment will be made up in the Day of final reckoning.

The Grand Commander's address is a rather protracted resume of a successful administration. He uses pure English and the "intelligent compositor" treats him well, a rare occurrence. He reports several new Commanderies as being regularly chartered, their officers duly installed and they set to work in good shape. He issued one dispensation for a new Commandery at San Augustine. He made six decisions, each of them clear and correct. He closes as follows:

It is plain to every observer that the conscience of the American people is awakening—peculation in office, breaches of trust, dishonesty in business, corrupt practices in politics, over-reaching, fraud and graft, in all their hideous ramifications, are being exposed and punished at the forum of public opinion. Integrity of character counts for more at present than in the recent past. The lessons in truthfulness, love of God, charity, justice, hospitality and courtesy, taught in our Order, make it the greatest school for the reformation of symmetrical character now in existence. Here lies the real strength of the Order of Knights Templar, and justifies its existence. It clarifies our vision so that we may see the various shades between upright living and penal crime. It gives an educated conscience, which responds to moral wrongs not enumerated in penal statutes.

Sir Knights you are dispersed over a great State, and each of you have an influence at home. The time is ripe to exert it, and make yourself felt. I am rejoiced to believe that this is being done, and has been done, and that the quickened conscience of the public has been

largely stimulated by this Order. This is a source of more pride than our increasing numbers, our well trained drills and sustained organizations.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were of the usual routine character and not especially interesting, to outsiders. The report on the address of the Grand Commander, is the most, full, complete and exhaustive, that we have ever read. In fact the committee analyzes and comments upon each and every part of the address and always in a spirit of commendation, which is nice and as it should be.

The Grand Treasury is in a healthy state, the balance, on the right side, being, \$5,442.71, in the "General Fund" and the Triennial Fund" \$1,000.00, making a total of cash on hand, \$6,442.71. Grand Recorder, Kidd, reports total receipts of \$4,884.80 and a net gain in membership of 279, the present membership being, 3,483.

We note that they have a "Triennial Committee" and that it has already secured an option on the "Grand Union Hotel" at Saratoga, for next year, and we hope they will have a good time. We note that the Committee on "Doings of Grand Officers," referring to the Grand Commander's Christmas Order, says: "A beautiful poem, composed for this occasion by one of our charming Texas ladies, accompanies the Grand Commander's Special Order. We recommend that the thanks of this Grand Body be conveyed to the accomplished author for the beautiful composition." Having carefully examined the "Order" in question, we find no reference to the authoress of the poem and that the R. E. introduces it with this remark: * * "and in this connection I beg to add:" Then follows the poem, which as it is really good, we copy as we find it, without quotation marks, or credit of any kind:

CHRISTMAS GREETING.

Brothers, beloved, in every land,
On mountain, shore or sea,
A greeting from our Royal King
Comes floating down to thee.

First wafted by the Angel Choirs,
It came to Judea's plain,
And echoed by his Loyal Knights,
Its message comes again.

Peace, peace on earth, good will to men,
To you is born this day
A Savior, which is Christ the Lord,
To lead you on the way.

As with the Banner of the Cross,
Uplifted to the sky,
"In hoc signo vinces"—hark!
The glorious battle cry.

Yea, by this sign we conquer,
 It cannot know defeat;
 And now, on this his royal day,
 His faithful warriors meet.

Not face to face, but heart to heart,
 One mighty voice shall ring
 Their pledges at the self-same hour,
 New plighted to their King.

Then Christmas greetings, Christmas cheer,
 I would to you impart;
 Though far dispersed through all the world,
 We're one in love and heart.

We are not accusing the R. E. of plagiarism, or anything of that sort, but to the average reviewer the impression would be left that the poem was original with the R. E., and we only mention the fact in order that such explanations may follow. The name of the author should appear in the proceedings, in justice to her and her composition. She may be an "innocent maiden," or a "helpless widow," in which case I am compelled, by my Templar vows to look after her and see that she is not euchred out of her "well earned fame." Besides this little episode gives us a chance to make "a few remarks."

CORRESPONDENCE

The "Hand of God" having "touched" our beloved brother Elgin, by a stroke of paralysis his mantle, as Correspondent, fell upon Grand Recorder, Kidd, who is a worthy successor of a mighty good man. The report covers one hundred and seven pages and reviews in a clear and interesting style, the doings of most of the Templar governing bodies of the world, Mississippi, at Jaxson, getting nearly five pages of fraternal and courteous attention. He quotes a paragraph from brother Burkitt's address, says of the Law Committee: "The committee on Templar Law, unlike some we have read after, evidently have read what the law says, and further say it is intended it should be obeyed. He then copies the "Dispensation" part of it, bodily. He has this to say of your "distinguished" Reporter: "The Fraternal Correspondence is from the same Brother Enoch who has made it interesting and warm, for the Guild, for many years past, and who, we trust, will follow this one with many others."

We are obliged to our brother for his kind words. He then copies the major part of our "Prologue" and endorses every word of it, which shows that he is a man of good sense.

Referring to our position in regard to the negro, he asks: "What disposition does his theology make for the Caucasian half of the mulatto?" To this we beg to reply, that as we did not make the mulatto or the other

half of him, we have not troubled ourself to look into what is to become of him, as this question does not affect the correctness of our main proposition. We copy the most of his criticism of Fred's "tail" to our report, so that if Fred sees anything in it that he doesn't like, he can go for brother Kidd's scalp.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The latter part of the "Fraternal Correspondence" consists of comments anent the Grand Encampment and "a tail" written by Sir Speed at Sir DeLap's request. When we were a boy we used to put a "tail" or "cracker" to our whip lashes, and our glory was "who could make the loudest pop." Logically that is all the comments and tail amount to.

The Grand Recorder had sent up to the Grand Encampment proposed statutes (a) to define what should be done if candidate failed to present himself for the Orders within a certain time; (b) an abbreviated form of burial service; (c) to provide for suspensions for non-payment of dues.

The second and third were not considered, and for the first a statute was adopted fixing the time at six months.

Sir Speed says the language is ambiguous, cumbersome, etc.

We would say that the mistake was, in sending them up at all. We hold that where the Grand Commandery Statutes (and Constitution) are silent, any Grand Commandery can enact a statute to suit its own purposes, without violation of Grand Encampment laws, and without inflicting on another State something it may not desire.

In 1870 Texas adopted a statute fixing the time for a candidate, etc., at one year, and we were doing well under it, when this thing came up, and now we have to abide by the six months.

As to the burial service, well, any Commander that doesn't know enough, to properly abbreviate, when the circumstances require, doesn't know enough to go in out of the rain.

As to the third, we leave the matter to our Subordinate Commanderies. They put a clause in their by-laws, governing the case, and the Grand Commandery approves it (or shapes it as it thinks best), and there you are.

Sir Speed entirely mixes himself up with confounding "Disfranchisement" and "Suspension."

They are two entirely different propositions, and the Grand Encampment Statutes do not put them together. Sir Speed says that Title 18 is in conflict with Title 48. Well, as they refer to two different propositions, how can they conflict?

Title 18 relates to dues, and Section 4 reads: "A Commandery *may* enact a by-law fixing annual dues, and providing that members are in arrears for two years shall be ineligible to office and not entitled to vote, but the disqualifications may be removed on payment of arrearages and by a majority vote."

In this case a member does not lose his membership as in case of suspension.

We have exactly a parallel in our State political conditions.

Unless a man pays a poll tax, by a certain date, he can not vote that year. While sending him to penitentiary deprives him entirely of citizenship. Like in the Commandery, a man can relieve himself in one case by payment of his tax, and in the other it takes a pardon from the Governor to restore.

In the Commandery it takes a unanimous ballot to restore to membership.

We do not believe that Grand Commanderies deliberately pass Statutes knowing they are in violation of the Grand Encampment Statutes. We think Mississippi's committee struck the nail on the head when they said:

"While we are of the opinion that the amendments proposed by this Grand Commandery, through its Grand Recorder, to the Grand Encampment, were of sufficient merit to have engaged the attention of that body, so long as we continue to hold to the opinion that the laws of the Grand Encampment are of supreme authority, there is no remedy, however desirable the amendments may be, and regardless of what other Grand Commanderies may do, we consider our duty as true and loyal Knights, is to observe in letter and in spirit the obligations of the Order, as expressed in its vows of fidelity."

It is well said that the best place to have a boil is on another fellow's arm.

Unfortunately, we sometimes nurse a little pimple of our own until we think all the world realizes we are having a "big boil."

To all, we would say, our little advice is, don't run to the Grand Encampment with every little thing we can adjust within our own Grand Body, and remember the Greek proverb: "Don't disturb Camarina."

We beg to extend our sincere sympathy for our brother, in his sad and great bereavement. His portrait makes an elegant frontispiece to the pamphlet.

As we have already devoted considerable space to Texas, and are somewhat tired, we will subside.

R. E. Sir Marcus F. Mott is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

ADDENDA.—

It seems to be, and doubtless is, a mere waste of time to attempt to convince the obstinate juror from Texas, who has evidently made up his mind and is going to stick to it, right or wrong, regardless of consequences. He is a kind hearted, amiable fellow, with a head full of brains and not at all what his name implies, having attained to years of discretion some time ago, but it is like thrashing out old straw to go on perpetually arguing these questions and especially in this place, and were it not for the fact, that there lies beneath all of it, a principle which ought not to be abandoned, because, it is of vital importance, I should not venture upon any reply to the flippant remarks of my Texas friend, who does not appear to appreciate the gravity of the situation. It is too much like brushing flies in August to argue any proposition with a man, who in one breath expresses appreciation of and endorses the Report of our Committee: "That the Laws of the Grand Encampment are supreme authority" * * * and "however desirable the amendments may be * * * we consider it our duty, as true and loyal Knights, to observe in letter and spirit the obligations of the Order, as expressed in its vows of fidelity" and with the next respiration becomes apparently oblivious to the existence of any obligation to the Grand Encampment and goes on and says, "We hold that where the Grand Commandery Statutes (and Consti-

tution) are silent, any Grand Commandery can enact a Statute to suit its own purposes without violation of Grand Encampment Laws, and without inflicting upon another State something it may not desire." Now if this is not jargon it means nulification. I have some doubts as to what it is, sense or nonsense, for how any one in his senses can say that when the Constitution and Statutes of a Grand Commandery are silent, it can make any law it pleases, regardless of whether it is in harmony or conflicts with the supreme law, surpasses comprehension. If all the rest of the Texans are as lucid as our friend Kidd, it is not at all surprising that a Texas Commander has been found, who cannot comprehend that Section 1 of Title 9 of the Statutes, does not admit of any abbreviation of the burial ceremonies and should have rushed in out of the rain and cut it short, for such an idea must have originated with a man whose thimble full of brains only admitted of his conceiving one idea at a time, and just at that moment was occupied with the supreme idea of preventing his beautiful feathers from becoming unglued by the dampness; in other words, such a man has no ideas above the six-pence, which his dyed goose feathers cost. In this connection it is worthy of remark, that the legislation of the Grand Encampment, in regard to its burial services, is only another illustration of what comes from precipitancy in the enactment of laws. Without repealing Section 1 of Title 9, which requires that "The burial ceremony approved by the Grand Encampment in 1859 must be observed" by a simple resolution, another and a distinct brand of the article was "adopted in lieu of the service now in force" and hence it is that we have two distinct burial services, both of which are inordinately long, so long in fact, that the mourners and other friends whose feelings are harrowed up by such a performance would be justified in praying for rain to stop the show that they might go in out of the wet, regardless of damage to the millinery.

Brother Kidd claims that Title 18 is not in conflict with Title 48, because they refer to two different propositions. But in this, he is entirely mistaken and evidently is not familiar with the rule of law, that the expression of one thing in a Statute, means the exclusion of another. Title 18, Section 4, prescribes the penalty of disfranchisement for the non-payment of dues, while Section 6 of Title 48, prescribes another and very different penalty for the same thing, viz.: failure to pay dues. In the one case the member is disfranchised and in the other, he is suspended, but in both instances the act is the same for which he is to be punished. Now he can't be disfranchised and suspended both, for one or the other section of the law must prevail. Brother Kidd's illustration is peculiarly unfortunate. In his State, they deprive a man of his franchise, because he does not pay his poll tax, which is all right and is as it should be. When a man commits larceny, which is a felony, they send him to the penitentiary for the felony, which is another and very different act from failure to pay poll tax. As neither the same act is committed nor the same penalty imposed, the illustration does not illustrate worth a cent. But as I have said, this is thrashing out old straw in which there is not a kernel

of wheat. The immediate question was disposed of at a time when the Grand Encampment was so full of the San Francisco hospitalities, that it had no time for legislation and ought not have been expected to have given calm and deliberate consideration to a question, having less merit than an invitation to go around the corner and see a man.

When the Grand Encampment at Pittsburg enacted the present Constitution and Code of Statutes, it incorporated into them a principle, which is utterly vicious and in the end may prove to be destructive. There was no necessity or even excuse, for centralizing all power in the Supreme Body and obliterating the autonomy of the Grand Commanderies. For three score years and more the Order had gained strength and flourished in these United States, under a Constitution and Laws modeled upon the Constitution and Laws of the United States, in which there was reserved to the Supreme Power all necessary power to preserve the integrity of the Order and leaving to the Grand Commanderies the regulation of their domestic affairs. The iconoclastic spirit which prompted the enactment of the present Code, was ill conceived and unwise from every point of view. An idol was torn down, because of a fancied resemblance to the doctrine of States Rights, but in its place another idol was set up to which the iconoclasts bow down and worship, imagining that it is related to the Nationalist idea, which would place into the hands of the General Government all power. The argument is falacious, for it was never suggested, even by the most ultra extremest, that the General Government should interfere with the domestic affairs of the states and attempt to regulate the police of a town or enforce sanitary laws. There is no objection to the Grand Encampment regulating the inter-state commerce between the Grand Commanderies, but when it went into the business of regulating the domestic concerns of the Grand Commanderies and their subordinates, it overthrew the theory upon which all Masonic government is based. Perhaps our Texas friend may get it into his head some day, that there is a pimple, which whether pricked or not, is destined to become a boil upon the nose of the Grand Encampment, and he may laugh as much as he pleases at the temporary defeat of those, who would restore conditions as they formerly prevailed "for this little pimple" is going to be nursed and the Grand Encampment will be wise if it recognizes the fact, that it cannot always expect to govern full grown men as if they were children, by a Code of Laws, which prescribes even to the minutest detail their simplest acts. The laugh is with you Sir Texas and if you enjoy it, I advise you to go out and have your fill of it before the boil ripens and bursts.

—SPEED.

VERMONT—1906.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Burlington, June, 12th. Present: R. E. Sir Charles A. Calderwood, Grand Commander; E. Sir Henry H. Ross, Grand Recorder; nine Past Grand Commanders, several other Past Grand Officers, eighteen Grand Representa-

tives, not including our's, a multitude of Past Commanders and the Representatives of twelve Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address is a short but well written resume of a successful, creditable but uneventful administration. We clip a part of his "Opening Chorus" because it is nice reading:

To the Sixty-fourth Annual Conclave of this Grand Body I bid you welcome. June in Burlington—a combination suggestive of pleasure and delight. At this season all nature conspires to make glad the heart of man. Earth's harshness is concealed under God's own carpet of green and brightened by innumerable flowers, beautiful and fragrant. Trees clothed in living green cover our mountains, making real the name of our dear old Green Mountain State, and transforming the streets and highways of this beautiful Queen City into cool and delicious bowers. The air balmy and mild is instinct with life and growth in all around, while meadow, mountain, and watery plain add variety and richness to the prospect. Here and now, if ever and anywhere, our hearts should be lifted up in sincere gratitude to Him who is the Author of all this order and beauty.

Add to this that our well-loved land is prosperous and at peace with all the world. The marts of commerce bustle with trade; the wheels of industry turn with a busy hum in every city and town; growing crops are evidence of the farmer's thrift and success—all this should make us a grateful people. "It well becometh the just to be thankful."

He made no decisions and granted no dispensations to hurry the ballot. Regarding the matter of buying the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, for use a few days next summer, he stated that he had been offered an "option" on it, but concluded it would be safer to submit the matter to the Grand Body, which he did. The committee made an appropriation of \$500 to be expended by the first four officers of the Grand Body, as they pleased, i. e., buy the Grand Union, or not, just as it suited them.

A portrait of the R. E. adorns the title page. A jolly, pleasant face. Looks like he enjoys life and would not object to a joke, now and then. We hate to see a face on which its owner carries all the religion he has in stock, it looks suspicious.

PROCEEDINGS.

These were routine and devoid of special interest to outsiders, except what follows:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence respectfully report, that they have examined that part of the address of the R. E. Grand Commander, referred to said Committee, relating to the matters of waiver of Jurisdiction, Dispensations and Grand Representatives, and cordially approve his action in connection with these several subjects.

The R. E. Grand Commander submits no decisions for the consideration of this Committee, but says that he would like an answer to the following question:

"A Sir Knight who is under charges for non-payment of dues, and

at the trial no evidence is introduced other than sustaining the charges, must the Sir Knights vote him guilty?"

We would like mightily to see the man, or set of men, who would presume to tell me that I MUST vote so and so on any question. The idea is revolting as well as preposterous!

The Grand Treasurer reported a balance, to the good, of, \$1,383.71. Total membership, 2,082, a net loss of 95! What is the matter, brother Perkins?

CORRESPONDENCE.

This document covers nearly one hundred pages, reviews most of the minutes of the Templar governing bodies of the world, including Mississippi, at Brookhaven, and is the work of our old friend, Past Grand Commander Marsh O. Perkins. Like all the literary production from this distinguished source, it is all right, interesting and good. His attention to our doings is pleasant and fraternal. We copy his "Statistical Comparisons" which also serves as a conclusion to his report:

STATISTICAL COMPARISONS.

We are pleased to acknowledge our indebtedness to the New York Committee for the statistical information and comparisons to be found in the following, as derived from the valuable, ready reference tables, prepared and presented by them, in the continuance of this interesting feature of the lamented Anthony's work as Correspondent:

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Grand Encampment	1	1	1	1	1
Grand Commanderies	43	44	44	44	45
Sub. Commanderies	1,050	1,072	1,080	1,110	1,141
Knighthood	8,215	9,516	10,563	12,229	12,300
Affiliated	1,203	1,239	1,232	1,472	1,569
Reinstated	485	533	538	936	544
Died	1,999	2,023	2,131	2,313	2,460
Dimitted	2,199	2,006	1,855	2,166	2,990
Dropped and N. P. D.....	1,971	1,780	1,553	1,518	1,560
Expelled	43	48	29	52	42
Membership	124,011	129,528	136,484	147,801	156,357

The five largest Grand Commanderies in numerical standing rank as follows:

Pennsylvania	16,813
New York	16,627
Massachusetts and Rhode Island.....	14,440
Illinois	11,487
Ohio	11,178

Pennsylvania thus retains her lead over New York by a narrow margin. Vermont has been passed by West Virginia, and now ranks 21st in aggregate membership, but holds her own in average membership of commanderies, viz.: ninth.

Pittsburg, No. 1, Pittsburg, Pa., has the largest membership of any commandery in the world, viz.: 1,250. Mary Commandery, No. 36, of Philadelphia, is a close second with a membership of 1,245. Boston Commandery is third with 1,011 members.

In average membership, the District of Columbia leads with 342; then comes Massachusetts and Rhode Island, 314; Connecticut, 285; New York, 273; New Hampshire, 219; Pennsylvania, 214; Maine, 196; Ohio, 189; Vermont, 173, and Illinois, 171.

The proportion of Knights Templar to Master Masons in the United States is in the ratio of 156,201 to 1,011,547, equal to 1 to 6.48; in Vermont, 1 to 5.42.

The proportion of Knights Templar to Royal Arch Masons in the United States is in the ratio of 156,201 to 276,066, equal to 1 to 1.77; in Vermont, 1 to 6.02.

R. E. Sir Elihu B. Taft is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent continued.

VIRGINIA—1905.

The Eighty-third Annual Conclave was held in the city of Richmond, October, 26th. There were in attendance: R. E. Sir Frank Ward Cunningham, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir James Braxton Blanks, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, a long list of Past Commanders, five Past Grand Commanders, and a long line of Grand Representatives, and Delegates from twenty Subordinate Commanderies.

The address of the Grand Commander is a short resume of an uneventful administration, the kind we like to run across. The magnanimous dead of his own and sister jurisdictions have courteous and sympathetic notice. He states that, up to the time he assumed the Toga, he did not know what an immense amount of work Grand Recorders are required to do. Some aspirants for that office are equally ignorant, or they would not hanker after it quite as much as they do. Of one thing we are sure, and that is that the redoubtable Fred earns all he gets, in either of the four bodies in which he holds that responsible and thankless office. The salary in the Grand Lodge allowed him, is simply disgracefully small, and is a reproach on the good name of Masonry in Mississippi. Louisiana, with not nearly so many members, pays three times as much, and more, and they certainly have no better officer than we do. The Wise Man said: "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; there is that withholdeth more than is mete, but it tendeth to poverty." All of this is true, not alone in the ordinary walks of life, but also in all corporations, especially those of a moral or benevolent kind, but not including bloated life insurance companies the officers of which steal the money of the policy holders and turn it over to political parties to secure the election of their candidate for President! The passage does NOT apply to these.

He made no decisions and if he granted any dispensations to rush the ballot he is discreetly silent about it. He does state, however, that he had granted several dispensations during the year, but does not say what for.

The Grand Recorder reports total receipts of \$2,392.25 and a total membership of 2,212, a gain of 131.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance on hand, to the good, \$785.30, general account, and \$721.85 in the Triennial Fund.

Proceedings were routine and unimportant, to outsiders. The salary of the Grand Recorder was raised to \$600 on the recommendation of the Grand Commander.

There is no report on Correspondence, but as a new committee was appointed, it is possible that one will materialize next year. We hope so. It is unpleasant to read a good report one year and the next find none at all, especially in a jurisdiction as large and containing so many able men and writers, as Virginia.

R. E. Sir Henry M. Boykin is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder as before and R. E. James E. Alexander, Correspondent.

WEST VIRGINIA--1906.

The Thirty-second Annual Conclave was held in the city of Clarksburg, May, 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir William J. Rowland, Grand Commander; E. Sir Francis E. Nelson, Grand Recorder; all the other members of the staff, nine Past Grand Commanders, twenty-one Grand Representatives, including our's, brother Bower, who is always in evidence where duty is to be performed, in fact he is a "right bower." There were, also a lot of Past Commanders and the Representatives of fifteen, out of sixteen Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address covers twenty pages, made on the happy-go-lucky style, that is it is simply a copy of his correspondence, reports of inspectors, etc., except a head that a number six hat would be too large for, and a caudal appendage that is the essence of brevity and, per consequence, the soul of wit. We are not disposed to object, very strongly, to this sort of architecture for an address, as it is easier to review, generally, than those are where "hot air" predominates and the author is not good at condensing. There is nothing specially startling in it, to outsiders, but it shows that its author was an able, conscientious and painstaking officer. He says, in his opening chorus, that the large attendance shows the "appreciation" of the brethren, but fails to state what it was they appreciated. Probably it was the Order itself, possibly the "hospitality" of the citizens of Clarksburg and the outing it afforded them. He granted a few dispensations along sundry lines, and refused one to ballot at a special conclave. No decisions. A portrait of the author adorns the pamphlet. A fine face and a good head.

The proceedings were routine and of local interest. Treasury balance, to the good, \$2,012.31; total membership, 2348, a gain of 170.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the tenth offense, in regular order, of our good friend and brother, Walling W. Van Winkle and, like the other nine, is a good one. It

covers one hundred and fourteen pages, digests the contents of fifty pamphlets, Mississippi at Jaxson and Brookhaven included, and is chock full of good reading, as Van's reports always are. His attention to our minutes, at the two conclaves named is very full and fraternal. He tells his readers about all that Frank said, at Jaxson, and what Foggo said at Brookhaven, but he doesn't use near so much space. He copies, sparingly, from our reports, has a pleasant word for your Reporter and a kindly one for Fred, et al, for all of which we are not ungrateful. We copy his epilogue in full:

With all the fascination there is in reading the several reports reviewed and extracting from the mass the material and accepted interesting matter that is selected; appreciating the discriminating judgment we are required to exercise in making it readable, it is a great relief to us when the work is finished, the time of rest reached. A sense of doubt causes us to consider how it will be received—critically, doubtless—but charitably.

Several times during the past year we have thought to make this our last. Not that we were unwilling, but that our leisure did not admit; not that our age, past the half a century period, was a hindrance, but our business duties increased in inverse ratio to our unoccupied time. We have written twice the reports in consecutive years of our Grand Commandery of any Correspondent in the thirty-two years it has been organized. There are among its members many well qualified to do this work. I would not object to being relieved.

In the Templar world there is not much occurring to furnish reviewers subjects for comment. The revision of the laws of the Grand Encampment; the careful interpretation given them, and the readiness which the Grand Commanderies have conformed their Rules and Regulations with such virtual organic law, has left no important open questions. Where we have thought occasion required, comment has been made in this report, but not captiously—at least not so intended.

We submit our work for what it may be worth; little or much as it may strike the reader.

R. E. Sir Joseph Ruffner is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

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WISCONSIN—1906.

The Forty-eighth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Milwaukee, October, 9th. There were present: R. E. Sir Merton Herrick, Grand Commander; E. Sir William W. Perry, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, eight Past Grand Commanders, several other Past Grand Officers, a lot of Past Commanders, seventeen Grand Representatives, including brother Giffin from our bailiwick, and Delegates from twenty-eight out of twenty-nine Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander thus opens an elegant address:

Time in its ceaseless march has brought us to another mile-post in our journey through life.

The years come and go, with slow and measured footsteps to the young and with increasing velocity to the old. Coming, they seem freight-

ed with human hopes and alluring destinies; going, they scatter in their paths the wrecks of blighted ambitions, vain regrets and lost opportunities. To those who live their lives aright, there is more of joy than sorrow, more of sunshine than shadow, more of success than failure. While there is an unseen power that rules our destinies, life is largely what we make it.

Some one has said: We are either pessimists or optimists from choice; that a pessimist is one who, having the choice of two evils, takes them both, An optimist, knowing no evil, cannot but choose that which is good."

How true it is that time travels like a snail, to the young, while it passes with the velocity of a cyclone with the old. The latter can best appreciate the words of the old-time hymn:

"Time passes with incessant speed,
And takes away our breath;
The coming day so quickly gone,
Is but approaching death.

"The hurried moments from us fly,
Nor heed our earnest prayer,
As messengers to bear on high,
What we are doing here."

The time seems exceedingly brief, since we wrote our report last year, and yet twelve moons have waxed and waned since then! In the light of the present fleeting moments, Eternity does not seem so long.

He pays affectionate tribute to the knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions. Peace to their ashes.

His decisions were of local interest. He issued quite a number of dispensations to ballot on the jump, which was all right and shows that the habit is not quite obsolete yet, which is refreshing. Under the heading of "Interstate Courtesies" we find the word "INVADE" used in connection with a visit of one of his subordinates to Michigan, and of a Minnesota commandery that desired to come over into the Badger State and take tea, which makes us tired, and a trifle mad, besides. A state that has the honor of being the birthplace of this Reporter, ought to have too much sense lying around, loose, to indulge in this sort of child's play. He issued a dispensation for a new commandery, at Kenosha. Seems to me that Kenosha is old enough and large enough to have had a local commandery long before this. We may be wrong, but this is something that mighty seldom happens. He reported that he et als had bought a hotel in Saratoga for the Triennial occasion. In closing he thanks Grand Recorder Perry for his aid and assistance and commends him very highly. It is always better to praise a man while he is alive, as he is not in a position to appreciate it after he is dead and gone.

The proceedings were of the usual routine character and devoid of general interest. The treasury contained a balance on the right side of the ledger, of \$5,406.94; total membership, 3730, a gain of 134.

CORRESPONDENCE

Is the second offense, in regular succession, of brother N. C. Giffin, reviews the minutes of forty-five Templar legislatures, our's for 1906 included,

covers just one hundred pages and is a good one, for an amateur. His attention to our doings is full and rather pleasant. We copy his reference to our report:

The report on Fraternal Correspondence is from the pen of Sir Knight E. G. DeLap. He reviews Wisconsin for 1905. He gives the writer hereof fully as much attention as he deserves and criticizes him for using the expression "Sir Brother" and says "it is bad form." Really, my dear Frater (Oh, excuse me, I perhaps should say Sir Knight), bad form indeed. We are sure we have often heard the expression "Sir Frater." I suppose he would say that is bad form. Does a man cease to be a brother when he becomes a Sir Knight? And then, as though the word "brother" was a title—we are sure we have never heard it called such before. And then he fears that two titles attached to one small man like himself would be too heavy, and yet he has been accustomed to carry more than two. How is this? Right Eminent Sir Knight E. G. DeLap, Past Grand Commander! How many titles have you there, and yet he survives! However, if it hurts his feelings and makes him think that we are guilty of some great indiscretion, when writing for Mississippi, we will be careful not to use the expression, for, being the Grand Representative of that splendid old State near the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin, we are desirous of being on good and friendly terms with all the Fraters of that jurisdiction, especially Sir Knight De Lap.

For the purpose of remarking that his defense of his use of the phrase, "Sir Brother," is exceedingly lame, halt, blind, miserable, naked and wont wash. In fact his defense is more defective than his offense was heinous. It is possible that he has heard some ass use the "Sir Frater" style, but if he has it makes not the slightest difference. Both expressions are horribly provincial and sound like the utterer was trying to do something big and failed. Brother G. is at liberty to use the two expressions, in question, as well as any others that strike his fancy, when writing about this bailiwick, but, of course, we would be glad if he would follow the beaten track and not ring in any of these nerve deranging expressions.

Notwithstanding this little eccentricity, we adhere to the original proposition, that his report is a good one. We excerpt his conclusion:

We have finished our labors for another year. The work has been done at odd moments as opportunity permitted. It has in some respects been easier than the first year, and yet we think we have spent much more time than on the former report. As Brother Rice, of Indiana, says "the correspondent who reviews does not travel on the lightning express." He not only has to stop at the various stations, but stop over. The pleasant things said of us by the Knights of the Quill tend to encourage us in our labors. We submit our work for inspection. Whether any but the members of the Guild will examine it we know not. That they will, we are sure and, judging the future by the past, believe they will not treat us harshly. How it would delight us to meet face to face with those Fraters whom we only know through the medium of the reports. If any of them come our way we shall expect a call. We will not say if you get within a few miles of Fond du Lac, "stop," but keep right on until you reach us.

Farewell until we meet again.

R. E. Pitt H. Sperry is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

WYOMING—1906.

The Nineteenth Annual Conclave was held in the city of Green River, April, 4th. There were present: R. E. Sir George C. Rafter, Grand Commander; R. E. Sir Adrian J. Parshall, Grand Recorder; all the other Grand Officers, save three, Prelate, Sword Bearer and Captain of Guard, eight Past Grand Commanders, a lot of Past Commanders, nineteen Grand Representatives, not including our's, and Representatives from six Subordinate Commanderies.

The Grand Commander's address opens with a brief dissertation on the "Crusades" and the chestnutty subject of the exploits of the early Templars, in making the roads safe for the armies of "pilgrims" who were superstitious enough to believe that a trip to the "Holy Land" would compensate for all the devilment they had before committed and give them carte blanche to raise the devil the balance of their lives. He uses the following sentence: "The pilgrims wandering thither from all parts of the Christian world could at last visit, in peace, the holy ground trodden by the feet of the LORD OF GOD, and worship unmolested at His tomb and where He stood on Olivet, and whence He ascended." Now it strikes your committee, or "Reporter," rather, that the title here given to our Lord, "Lord of God," is a trifle off color, for the reason that it puts him over His Father, a distinction that He never claimed for Himself, but the contrary. It is a title that I have never before seen, or heard given, either to the Father, the Son or the Holy Ghost, the three that compose the "Trinity," in which we all believe, and that no One of Whom is greater or "LORD" of the others.

We beg to dissent, also, from his assertion that the early Templars were entitled to such fulsome flattery as this: "Glorying in the Cross the worship of Christ was no secondary part of their vocation." Neither is it true that innocent maidens or widows, particularly when they were beautiful in form or feature, were accorded any special protection, privileges or favors, but the contrary. Tradition is a big thing until it gets in juxtaposition with history, when it "goes away back and sits down!"

He says, also, that "Their rule of life was the utmost strictness." He might have added that the strictness applied, more generally, to taking possession of all in sight that had a commercial value and leaving the balance of the world to hold the bag, as the saying is. We shall be glad when Templars get sufficient sense to calculate the amount of dross there was in the characters of a majority of the originals of the Order, and not try to make us believe that they were more than ten karats fine, if that, either morally, politically or religiously.

He then bewails the suppression of the Order and to make us believe that they were unjustly treated, a proposition that wont wash. They deserved, as a body, exactly what they got.

Proper notice is made of the knightly dead, both of his own and sister jurisdictions, among the names being that of our Senior Past Commander, John K. Fulsom. He made no decisions and granted but two dispensations, and these for the same old purpose, "Rapid Transit."

The proceedings were routine and devoid of special interest to you. Order in healthy condition; treasury balance, to the good, of \$552.03; total membership, 474, a gain of 15.

CORRESPONDENCE.

One hundred pages of the pamphlet contains this report, which is the second effort in this field of literature, of Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commander, Adrian J. Parshall, and it is a good one.

Under Louisiana he expresses surprise that so populous a State and one that had furnished the Order with as good a Grand Master as was J. Q. A. Fellows, et als, should have made so little progress, numerically, in "Templarism." To this we respond, That if the Order of the Temple is an ISM, they have made enough progress and lots of others too much.

His review of Mississippi is of the administration of G. C. Burkitt, and is quite full. He says of Frank's address that "it is a model of brevity," copies his remarks in regard to dispensations and comments as follows:

We will not quarrel with the position taken. We believe in moderation and believe further that if the dispensing power is one of the prerogatives of a Grand Commander it has been made so to cover just such cases as those recited, and not limited to a few routine duties of deciding, for instance, whether a Commandery should be permitted to wear a uniform in this or that case or what are really masonic occasions.

If we have misinterpreted the law it would be considered a favor if some one would set us straight.

He has this to say of the redoubtable Frederic:

Grand Recorder Speed's report discusses very fully and ably certain measures which he had hoped would have been adopted by the Grand Encampment. He also makes the Report on Necrology, which was verbal, and later written out. It is a meditative, heart to heart talk, in which he refers with much feeling to the several members of that Grand Commandery who have died during the year.

As we have often remarked, before, it is risky business to copy this sort of taffy, as it is so likely to make Fred vain and overbearing, but as we don't believe in throwing boquets to dead people, who cannot enjoy them, we venture to do so. If you have anything to commend in a man, do it before he dies, as post mortem eulogies don't do the recipient a bit of good.

Of the report of your distinguished Reporter he has these sage and sensible remarks to make, which are appreciated by us and, we are sure, not unpleasant to you:

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of that most versatile reviewer, DeLap.

As in former reports, this one is in evidence that he has more than glanced over the work of sister jurisdictions. If there is a weak spot he finds it. Of course there are many, and the 80 pages composing this report contain perhaps more "boiled down" original matter than is to be found in any other volume of "Proceedings" that comes to our notice.

Bro. DeLap is not sentimental. He does not enjoy buncombe. His opinion of masonic legends is very apparent in a criticism upon the address of welcome by the Mayor of Indianapolis to the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

You are right Brother Parshall, as to the reason of the absence of Wyoming from our report; it came too late.

R. E. Sir Cyrus Beard is Grand Commander; Grand Recorder and Correspondent as before.

CONCLUSION.

We commenced this report early in the year, reviewing the pamphlets as rapidly as they reached me, hence the job has been a long one. Some of it has been performed when my heart was heavy on account of the death of precious friends, chief among them being my dear old Phineas, (Savery) with whom I have held sweet counsel for lo these many years and whom I have loved as a very dear brother since he read my address to the Grand Commandery in 1873. As a man he was the peer of the best and noblest; as a Mason, among the best and brightest of the host; as a christian gentleman, the first among his equals; as a friend, faithful, just and true. It will be long before we see his like again. Peace to his ashes and comfort to his loved ones left behind.

Our beloved, genial, lovable brother, Rev. Irvin Miller, has also joined the "Great Majority," crossed the "Jordan of Death" and sat down under the shade of the Tree of Life, in that upper and better country, where our brother Savery has, so recently, joined him. Both of them were in failing health at the last conclave of the Grand Commandery, brother Miller being confined to bed at that time. It is pleasant, in our hour of grief, to feel so sure that each of these dear ones having fought the good fight and finished their earthly course, are to-day with the blest in heaven, where, sometime in the not very remote future, we expect to join and spend an eternity of happiness with them and with Him who died for our redemption and bought us with His own precious blood.

Others of our friends, dear to us by intimate association and companionship, for many years, have also laid their armor down and are with the ones specially named.

You will pardon me for laying a flower of loving remembrance on the grave of one who though not a Mason, was one of my best, most valued and oldest friends. A man of the most winning personality, the highest grade of integrity, purity of life and character, the soul of honor and the essence of all that is noble, lovable and admirable in a Man, and for

whom our city and community are in sackcloth and ashes to-day, Capt. James W. Lambert, of Natchez. A man of the largest intelligence, broad minded, liberal in his views, although tenacious in his devotion to his own religious belief, he freely accorded to all others that freedom of thought, choice and affiliation that he demanded for himself, which is a distinguishing characteristic of all men who are really and truly great. His worth as a citizen, his character as a christian gentleman and his loveliness as a man is abundantly proved in the universal grief that spread over our city when The Master took him to be with Him in heaven. Peace to his ashes and blessings on his memory and worth, which are a priceless heritage to his loved ones.

This is a sad sort of conclusion, but I cannot help it. When I am bereaved of my friends, I AM bereaved.

Commending you each and all to the tender, loving care of "The Man of Sorrows," and with a heart full of love for each of you, and an earnest prayer for the continued prosperity of the Order everywhere, I beg to remain,

Courteously yours,

E. G. DeLAP,

Reporter.

December 29, 1906.

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Deputy Grand Commandet,	George C. Winkler, Emmett.
Grand Generalissimo,	Garland D. Brown, Mayfield.
Grand Captain General,	John S. Briggs, Booneville.
Senior Grand Warden,	E. Ernest Clement, Orono.
Junior Grand Warden,	Edwin F. Merriam, Booneville.
Grand Prelate,	John A. H. Jones, Higgins.
Grand Treasurer,	Geo. J. Smith, Booneville.
Grand Recorder,	Frederic Speed, Tipton.
Grand Standard Bearer,	Robert A. Sugler, Lexington.
Grand Sword Bearer,	Joseph J. Brooks, Booneville.
Grand Warden,	Louis A. Egan, Booneville.

COMMITTEES.

TEMPLE LAW,	Oliver L. McKay, P.G.C., Chairman, Meridian.
	William A. Bodenhamer, P.E.C., Deputies, Meridian.
	Waddell, P.G.C., Meridian.
FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE,	Committee, Booneville.
	P.G.C., Natchez.

The Forty-eighth Annual Unclave will be held at Booneville, on Friday, February 14, 1908.